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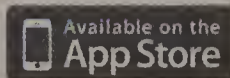
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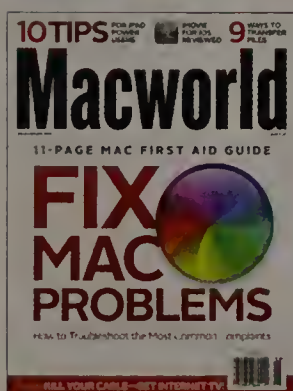
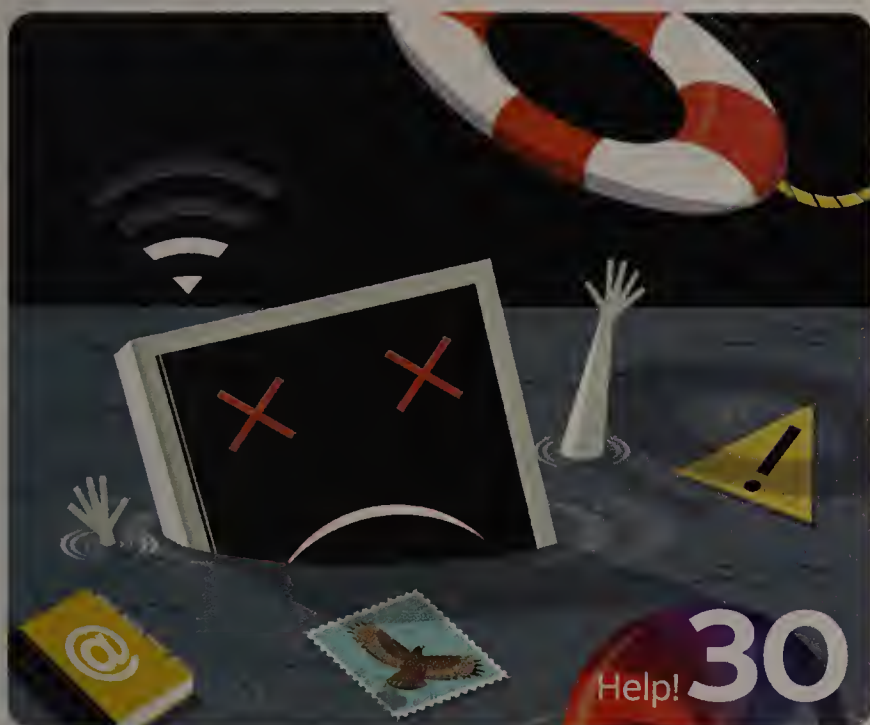
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# Macworld

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**Podcast: GarageBand and iMovie for iPad**

Christopher Breen and Jeff Carlson give you the inside scoop on the iOS versions of these iLife stalwarts (macworld.com/7123).

**We also recommend:**

Slideshow: Camera Equipment for Extreme Photographers (macworld.com/7124).

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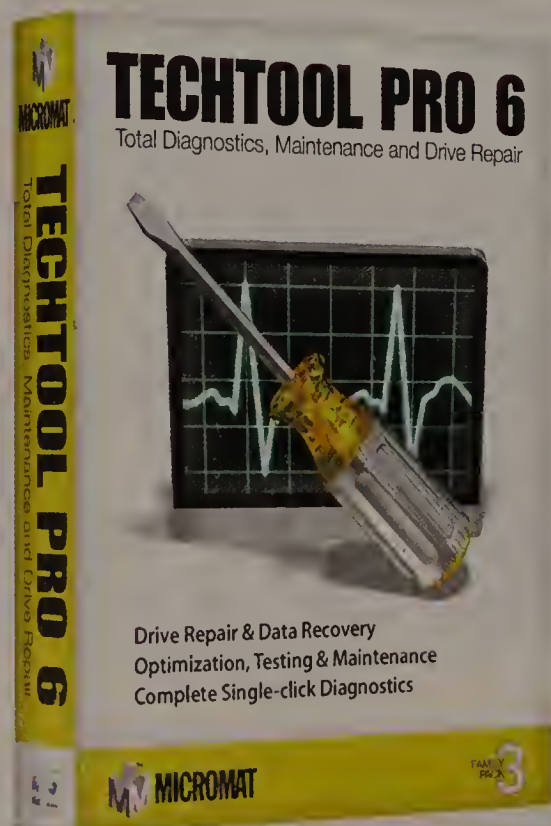




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# Answering the Call

In Mac 911, Christopher Breen bravely takes on readers' Mac, iPhone, iPod, and iPad problems

**C**hristopher Breen has probably seen it all. Our esteemed senior editor has been helping people solve their Mac problems since the early '90s.

When I started working at *MacUser* magazine back in 1993, Chris was already on the job, patrolling that magazine's *Help Folder* section. For more than a decade now, he has been answering the Mac equivalent of the emergency phone call in *Macworld's* monthly *Mac 911* column and the twice-weekly *Mac 911* blog on *Macworld.com*.

## Breen's Brain

Obviously, troubleshooting as a topic is not near or dear to anyone's heart. Nobody wants trouble, but trouble will eventually find you if you're using high-tech stuff. Computers are complicated systems and they're prone to failure. Sometimes the failures are small and annoying, but at other times they can be spectacular.

In either case, it takes a special kind of brain to understand all the ways people can get into—and out of—nasty



**Nobody wants trouble, but trouble will inevitably find you if you're using high-tech stuff.**

computer scrapes, and Chris Breen has one of the best. That's why we recently asked Chris to think of the troubleshooting questions he receives most frequently and to answer all of them in one place. You'll find the results in

our 11-page cover story, "Help!" beginning on page 30.

## Troubleshooter's Blues

There is a downside to Chris's job as *Macworld's* troubleshooter-in-chief: The incessant questions about Macs, iPhones, iPads, and iPods can wear down even the most even-tempered columnist (and Chris is *extremely* even-tempered). That's why we've also allowed him to get a few 911-related gripes off his chest in this month's *Spotlight* column (page 104).

Lest you get the wrong idea, however, I should point out that Chris has plenty of other interests beyond technological frustration and destruction. He has hosted most episodes of our weekly *Macworld Podcast* ([macworld.com/podcast](http://macworld.com/podcast)). He's an accomplished musician who performs professionally. (That makes him the perfect person to review apps like *GarageBand* for the iPad, which he did in last month's iPad 2 feature.) His young daughter gives him a unique perspective on how kids are using new technology like the iPad. And of course, he's the author of approximately a billion books.

What should you do if Chris didn't cover your particular problem in this month's feature or *Spotlight* column? You can always drop an e-mail to [mac911@macworld.com](mailto:mac911@macworld.com), or, better yet, post a message in the *Mac 911* forum at [macworld.com](http://macworld.com) so that your fellow readers can also pitch in to try to solve the problem. Nobody likes trouble. But Chris would be the first to admit that it's always better to look for solutions together and share them with everyone else.

**Jason Snell** is the editorial director for *Macworld*. E-mail him at [jason\\_snell@macworld.com](mailto:jason_snell@macworld.com) or follow him on Twitter at [twitter.com/jsnell](https://twitter.com/jsnell).

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For the past few years, as part of our Superguide series, *Macworld* has been publishing books in print and as PDFs. (You can see a complete catalog of them at [macworld.com/superguide](http://macworld.com/superguide).) But we've recently embraced e-books as well, by also publishing on Apple's iBookstore; our titles are now accessible via Apple's iBooks app for iOS.

Tens of thousands of people downloaded our free *iPad Starter Guide* last year; we've just released a new free version, the *iPad 2 Starter Guide*. We're also releasing an e-book version of "100 Things Every Mac User Should Know," from our April 2011 issue. In the next few weeks, a new version of our *Digital Photography Superguide* will also appear on the store, along with two new minibooks about iPhoto '11 and iPhone photography.







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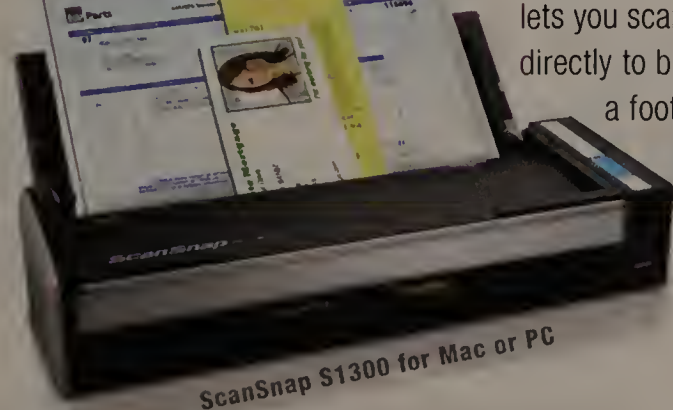
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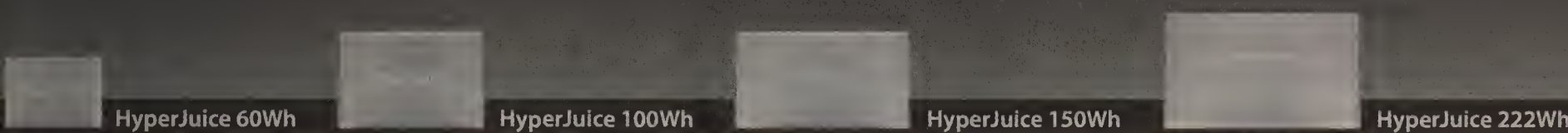
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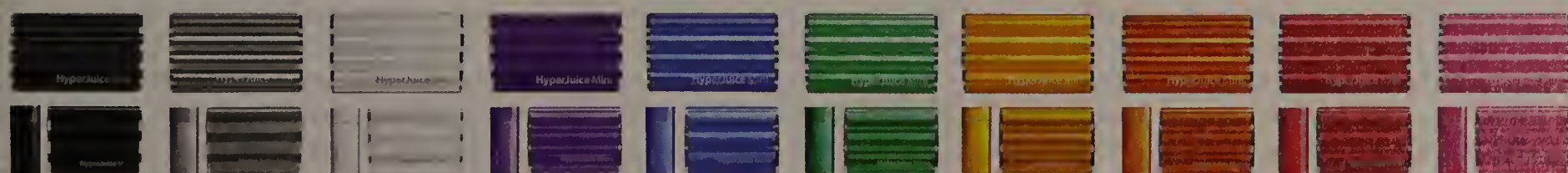
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## Mac OS X: The Core of Apple's Success

A look back at the operating system ten years after its official release

BY DAN MOREN

**O**n March 24, 2001, the iMac was less than three years old, the iPod's debut was more than six months away, and Macs ran at astounding speeds of up to 733MHz. But most important, on that day Apple released the first official version of Mac OS X, changing the future of its OS platform forever.

The release, code-named Cheetah, was the first step in transforming Apple from a company poised on the edge of disaster into the second most valuable company in the world.

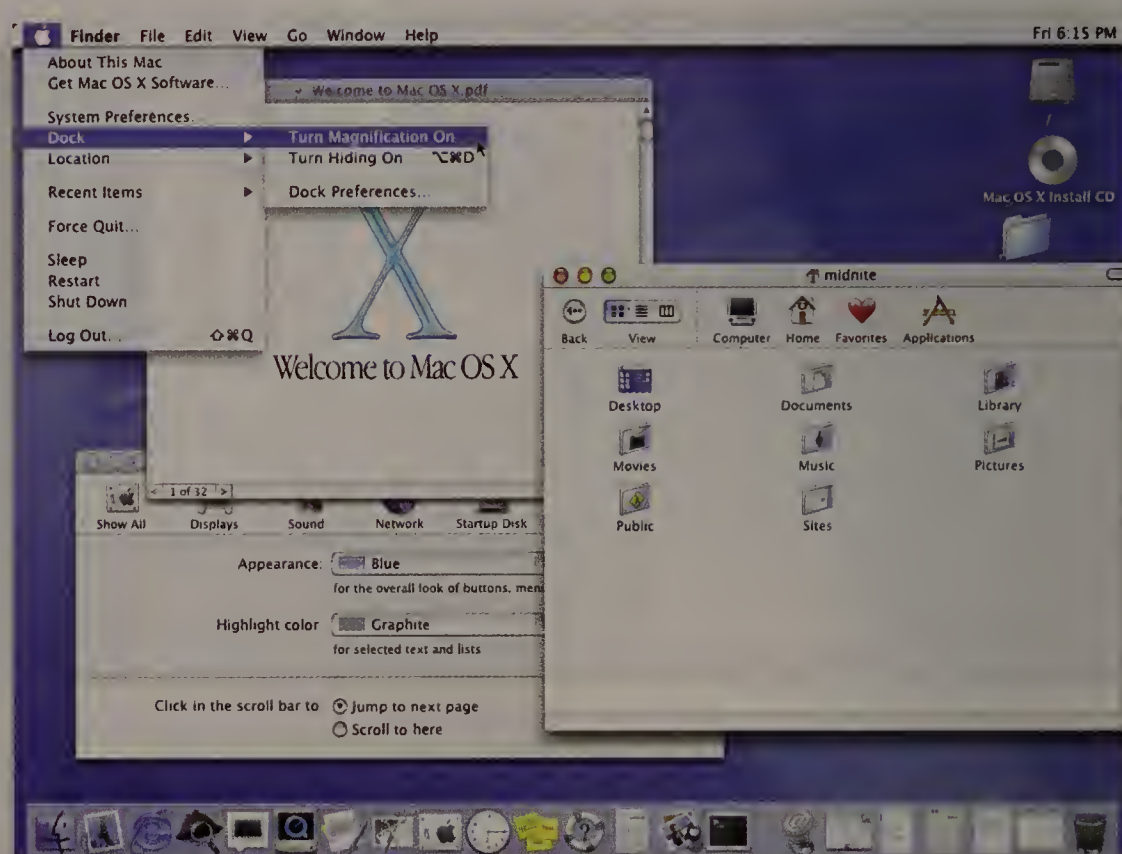
Were you to engage in a flight of fancy, you might call the advent of Mac OS X the deliverance for the tenacious few who had remained faithful to Apple throughout the dark times, when the Mac product line had proliferated into a writhing, seething mass of poorly differentiated models in a seeming attempt to out-PC the PC makers. Mac OS X was a sign that the direction of the company had truly changed, after years of failed attempts to modernize the Mac OS.

Perhaps Mac OS X's greatest coup is that it shipped at all. The road to a new version of the Mac OS was littered with the graves of projects that

### As Apple improved Mac OS X, it stuck to an underlying philosophy: The operating system isn't an end in itself.

had gone before: Taligent, Copland, and Gershwin.

The first shipping version of Mac OS X was far from perfect: It couldn't play DVDs or burn CDs, its performance was often sluggish, and the interface was distinctly different from (and in many



**Modern OS** The first official version of Mac OS X was code-named Cheetah. Ten years later, it's the foundation for Apple's success.

ways cruder than) that of its predecessor. But Apple did as it always does: It kept on rolling. And over the following years, the company issued update after update, improving the system in a multitude of

of most Mac users on an entirely unscientific graph, I wager you'd find that it trended upward over time.

I can think of no greater testament to Mac OS X's success than the experience of my own friends and family. In the '90s, the majority of them were PC users, and even those few who had stuck by the Mac eventually moved to the PC—often because PCs were far more affordable than Macs. But now, ten years after the release of Mac OS X, despite the price differential, my friends and family are far more likely to be packing an aluminum MacBook than a cheap plastic Dell. Though OS X might not deserve all the credit—Apple's emphasis on hardware design, Micro-



soft's numerous missteps, and my own repeated entreaties probably contributed—it's hard to argue that OS X didn't play a major role.

And that's not just because it dragged Macs into the modern age, with long-awaited features like preemptive multitasking and protected memory—both previously the domain of competitors. After all, most computer users probably couldn't even tell you what either of those terms means. No, users came to the Mac, because as Apple improved OS X, it stuck to an underlying philosophy: The operating system isn't an end in itself; it's about making it as easy as possible to use computers to accomplish things.

That's the same philosophy that Apple has followed with the iPhone and the iPad. It's hard not to see the impact of Mac OS X on most of the major decisions Apple has made in the past decade, whether it's the importance of iTunes, the transition to Intel processors, or the development of iOS devices—which, after all, are based on the same OS X underpinnings as the Mac.

As OS X embarks on its second decade, it's about to undergo another major shift. In the forthcoming OS X version—Lion—the student becomes the teacher: Apple is beginning to fold features from its iOS platform back into the Mac OS, taking its desktop computer software down a new and very different path.

Those changes have worried some people, but progress—good or bad—is inevitable. The Mac OS X of ten years hence is going to be as different from today's Snow Leopard as Snow Leopard is from Mac OS X 10.0, but at its core, that future Mac OS X is going to be rooted in the same principle of getting the technology out of our way so we can get on with our lives.

The proof will be in the using. But if I may return to my hypothetical graph of Mac users' satisfaction, I'd venture to guess that a decade down the road, that trend line will continue to veer upward, and we'll all be looking back on the Mac OS of 2011 and shaking our heads at what it was missing and what was still to come.



## Mac OS X and iOS to Share WWDC 2011 Stage

Developers to converge in San Francisco in June

BY DAN MOREN

If the language Apple is using to promote this year's Worldwide Developer Conference in June in San Francisco is any indication, then the company is betting that the only thing developers will like better than the individual flavors of the iOS and Mac OS X operating systems is those two great tastes swirled together.

According to Apple's press release, this year's WWDC attendees will be treated to "the future of iOS and Mac OS." It seems unlikely Apple will want to crowd the stage with new hardware announcements.

In the past, Apple's two operating systems have often taken separate tracks, with iOS getting a preview event in the spring and Mac OS X, on its less frequent update schedule, being shown at WWDC or in a separate Mac-related event. Apple's announcement, positioned at a time when an iOS preview event usually occurs, could be a sign that iOS 5 won't be revealed before June.

Many of the sessions and labs aimed at developers are applicable to both iOS and Mac OS X; and that's little surprise, given that Apple

uses the same underlying technology in both of its operating systems. Plus, the Mac platform has returned as a category in the Apple Design Awards, after an absence last year that left many OS X developers irked. (There is a catch, however, as entries this year must be available through the Mac App Store.)

While the future of Lion has more or less been teased out, Apple has kept a tighter lid on anything related to iOS 5 or the future of the iPhone. Even the company's iPad 2 event in March, which previewed iOS 4.3, didn't show off much in the way of new software features.

Apple's strategy of making Mac OS X more iOS-like has raised concerns, and while it's clear that these two operating systems are destined to become increasingly intertwined, the fears that they will become one seem overblown—at least for now. WWDC 2011 seems poised to usher in what could be termed an era of "increased cooperation" between the two platforms.

The message from Apple seems to be: If you're a Mac developer, why aren't you an iOS developer? If you're an iOS developer, why aren't you a Mac developer? Give it a try and you might just find that these are two great tastes that taste great together.



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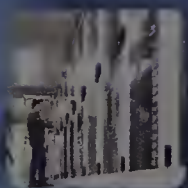
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# Firefox 4: Mozilla's Best Browser Yet

BY NATHAN ALDERMAN

## REVIEW

Mozilla's Firefox browser has long had flashy features that often bogged down its performance—until now. Still not as all-around fast as Safari and Chrome, the leaner, meaner Firefox 4 nonetheless makes a quantum leap forward from its former self.

Compared to version 3.6.15, Firefox 4 feels like a whole new browser. On a 2GHz Core 2 Duo aluminum MacBook with 2GB of RAM, it performed XHTML rendering more than five times faster, CSS rendering nearly 30 percent faster, and JavaScript rendering almost four times faster in my testing. It also scored slightly better in the Acid3 standards test, and gained 100 points (out of 400) in an HTML 5 compatibility check.

When pitted against Safari 5.0.4, Opera 11, and Chrome 10.0.6, Firefox's gains look more modest, but still commendable. Firefox scored slightly higher than Chrome, and outpaced Safari and Opera by a wider margin, to claim the crown in the SunSpider JavaScript benchmark. But in XHTML rendering, it ran nearly three times slower than Chrome and Safari, ran almost equal with Opera, and considerably lagged all others in CSS rendering. While these gaps sound dramatic, the actual differences involved ranged from 0.25 second to 1 second.

Its Acid3 score of 97 still trails its rivals' perfect 100s; however, Firefox's 255 points plus 9 bonus points out of a possible 400 in the HTML 5 compliance test trails only Chrome's 288 plus 13 points, and solidly tops Safari's 228 plus 7 bonus points and Opera's 177 plus 7. And like every browser but Chrome, Firefox 4 scored perfectly in a CSS3 selector compliance check.

Among Firefox 4's new interface innovations, I really liked App Tabs. They let you add frequently used Web



**New Look** The tabs in Firefox 4 are located atop the browser window, and improved HTML 5 support enables amazing-looking sites without plug-ins.

applications as space-saving icons that will appear every time you open a new window. App Tabs helpfully glow blue whenever they hold updated content.

In other minor changes, tabs now top the browser window; you can jump to a tab by typing its name in the URL bar; all of the bookmark-related features are now in a single handy menu on the bookmarks bar; and the URL bar's Stop and Reload functions now share a single button.

Tab groups were the only new interface feature that left me cold. Click the palette button on the right side of the browser bar, and your screen becomes a big gray void engulfing tiny thumbnails of all your open tabs. You can drag and drop each tab into nameable groups, then double-click a group to open its contents en masse. This idea feels half-baked in practice. You can't move more than one tab at a time, or drag groups of tabs in from the bookmarks bar. Thankfully, this feature is unobtrusive and strictly optional.

Behind the scenes, Firefox 4 packs another set of improvements. Hardware

acceleration makes browsing feel notably faster, although a Mozilla demo of 3D transformations on 2D objects still ran like molasses for me. The reliance on hardware may also explain why my laptop's fan occasionally kicked in after long browsing sessions.

WebGL support enables nifty, plug-in-free 3D games and graphics within the browser. Firefox 4 now offers vastly more support for CSS transitions and animations. The browser also now plays HTML 5 video encoded in either Ogg Theora or Google's WebM codec, though it doesn't support Apple's preferred H.264.

## Macworld's Buying Advice

Firefox 4 isn't the fastest browser, and its interface still leans more toward wonkishness than elegance. But when I load and browse pages, it feels far fleetier to me than the increasingly sluggish Safari. Firefox 4 offers fast, fun, full-featured browsing with few compromises, and is well worth a try.

★★★★; free; Mozilla, [mozilla.com](http://mozilla.com); full review, [macworld.com/7104](http://macworld.com/7104)



# Court Overturns \$625.5 Million Ruling against Apple

BY BEN CAMM-JONES

A federal court in Texas has overturned the verdict of a patent infringement case in which Apple was ordered to pay \$625.5 million in damages to Mirror Worlds. In the trial, a federal jury found that Apple had infringed multiple patents involving the way information is displayed on mobile devices and computer screens.

At the time, Apple argued that the amount of damages awarded to Mirror Worlds, a now-defunct company founded by Yale computer science professor David Gelernter, was too high.

Mirror Worlds alleged that Apple's Spotlight, Time Machine, and Cover

Flow features infringed three of its patents, though Apple challenged the validity of those patents.

U.S. District Judge Leonard Davis said that Apple had not infringed the patents in question. The judge did uphold the validity of Mirror Worlds' patents. However, he said that the jury's verdict in the 2010 case had been influenced by Mirror Worlds' arguments, which had not presented all of the facts.

"Mirror Worlds may have painted an appealing picture for the jury, but it failed to lay a solid foundation sufficient to support important elements it was required to establish under the law," said Judge Davis.

## Macs: Current Lineup

PRODUCT	SPECS	RATING	PRICE	DISPLAY	SPEED-MARK 6.5 <sup>A</sup>	FIND CODE <sup>B</sup>
<b>DESKTOP</b>						
	Intel Core i3/3.06GHz	★★★★	\$1199	21.5 inches	174	6432
	Intel Core i3/3.2GHz	★★★★	\$1499	21.5 inches	179	6433
	Intel Core i3/3.2GHz	★★★★	\$1699	27 inches	177	6434
	Intel Core i5/2.8GHz quad-core	★★★★	\$1999	27 inches	196	6435
	Intel Core 2 Duo/2.4GHz	★★★★	\$699	not included	100	6304
	Intel Xeon/2.8GHz (quad-core)	★★★★	\$2499	not included	207	6458
	Intel Xeon/2.4GHz (eight-core)	★★★★	\$3499	not included	216	6459
	Intel Xeon/2.66GHz (12-core)	★★★★	\$4999	not included	261	6460
<b>PORTABLE</b>						
	Intel Core 2 Duo/2.4GHz (white)	★★★★	\$999	13 inches	99	6207
	Intel Core 2 Duo/1.4GHz, 64GB	★★★★½	\$999	11 inches	85	6692
	Intel Core 2 Duo/1.4GHz, 128GB	★★★★½	\$1199	11 inches	84	6691
	Intel Core 2 Duo/1.86GHz, 128GB	★★★★	\$1299	13 inches	108	6694
	Intel Core 2 Duo/1.86GHz, 256GB	★★★★	\$1599	13 inches	108	6693
	Intel Core i5/2.3GHz (dual-core)	★★★★	\$1199	13 inches	140	7002
	Intel Core i7/2.7GHz (dual-core)	★★★★	\$1499	13 inches	155	7003
	Intel Core i7/2GHz (quad-core)	★★★★	\$1799	15 inches	175	7004
	Intel Core i7/2.2GHz (quad-core)	★★★★½	\$2199	15 inches	209	7005
	Intel Core i7/2.2GHz (quad-core)	★★★★½	\$2499	17 inches	210	7006

<sup>A</sup> Speedmark 6.5 is Macworld Lab's standard test tool for benchmarking systems running Mac OS X 10.6 (Snow Leopard). For more information on Speedmark testing, go to [macworld.com/6647](http://macworld.com/6647). <sup>B</sup> In a browser's address field, typing in a find code after [macworld.com/](http://macworld.com/) takes you to a product's review or overview.

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# Developers Can Port iOS Apps to the Mac

The Iconfactory's Chameleon provides easy-to-use tools

BY LEX FRIEDMAN

**T**hough software developer The Iconfactory is well known for a variety of popular and consumer-friendly Mac and iOS apps (including Twitterrific, Ramp Champ, Frenzic, and Astronut), its latest project, called Chameleon ([chameleonproject.org](http://chameleonproject.org)), targets developers. With Chameleon, The Iconfactory provides an open-source framework for developers to easily port iOS apps to the Mac.

The idea is simple: iOS developers can take code written for Apple's UIKit framework and, with minimal effort, get that code to run on the Mac instead. Since Chameleon doesn't use any private APIs and depends only on open Apple documentation, it doesn't violate rules that

would block apps built using the Chameleon framework from the Mac App Store.

By creating Chameleon, The Iconfactory was able to reuse more than 90 percent of its iOS code base for Twitterrific in the new Mac version. Developer Steve Troughton-Smith posted on Twitter that he was able to port his iPhone app SameGame to the Mac using Chameleon in just a couple of hours.

While some wonder whether Apple might create a similar framework on its own, The Iconfactory developers currently don't expect Cupertino to do so, stating explicitly that The Iconfactory "value[s] our relationship with Apple and will shut down this project" if Apple requests it do so.

Chameleon could have a positive impact by helping iOS developers expand



to the Mac. We may see them create new Mac software that would otherwise never have seen the light of the desktop.

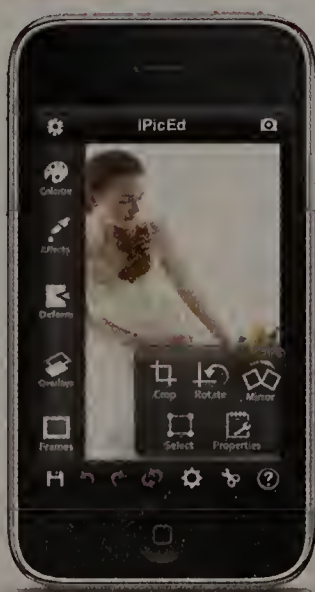
Developers who have tasted success with the App Store may well be itching to give the Mac App Store a spin.

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# Apple OS Guru Says Au Revoir

Bertrand Serlet, senior VP of Mac software, leaves the company

BY DAN MOREN

Apple announced in March that senior vice president of Mac software engineering Bertrand Serlet is leaving the company. Serlet said in a press release that he wants “to focus less on products and more on science.”

Serlet is considered the main architect of Mac OS X. However, as the evolutionary road map for Mac OS X has the desktop operating system looking more like iOS, now may be the right time for Serlet to move on to the next phase of his career.

Mac OS X is in good hands—Serlet will be succeeded by Apple’s current vice president of Mac software engineering, Craig Federighi. Federighi is a veteran of Next, the company Apple CEO Steve Jobs founded after he left Apple in 1985.

Federighi joined Apple in 1997, when Jobs returned to helm that company. Federighi then left in 1999 and spent ten years at Ariba, where he served as vice president of Internet services, among other posts. Federighi returned to Apple in 2009 to lead the Mac OS X engineering team, a job he’s held ever since.

Serlet has worked with Jobs for the last 22 years, first at Next and later at Apple itself. Prior to his stint at Next, Serlet worked at Xerox PARC for four years. At Apple, he stepped into the role of senior vice president in 2003, when the former head of software engineering, Avie Tevanian, assumed the post of chief software technology officer. Tevanian left Apple in 2006.

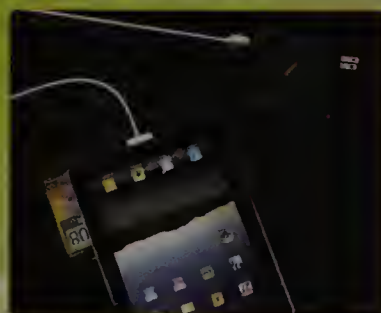


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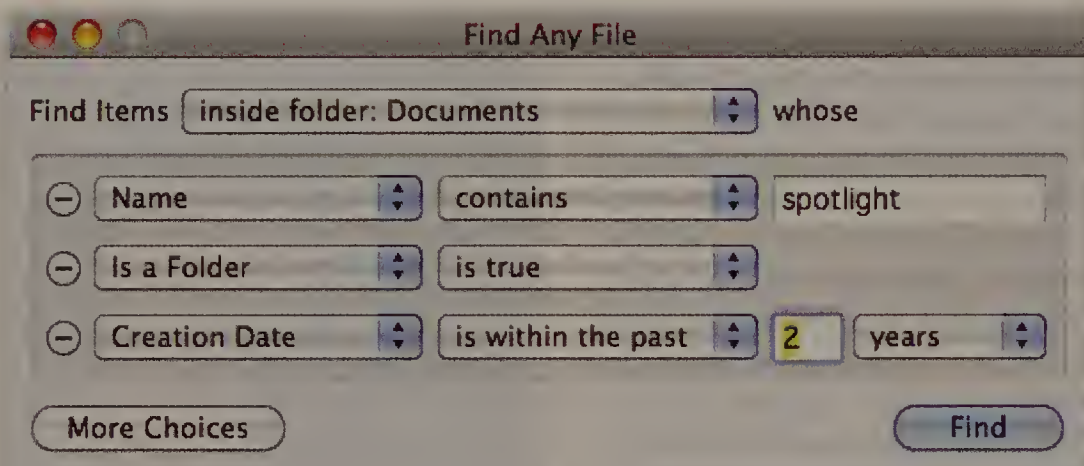
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# MAC GEMS

Discover Great, Low-Cost Mac Products **By Dan Frakes**



## Find Any File 1.5.1

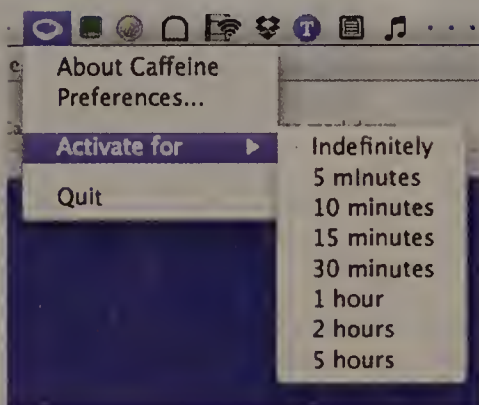
**UTILITY** Among the most popular Mac Gems are utilities that aim to better Mac OS X's own Spotlight search feature. My latest file-searching Gem is Find Any File, which brings to OS X the Find interface of Mac OS 9 and earlier.

Find Any File's simple search window lets you choose the location you want to search, as well as your search criteria. By default, you get a single search option, but you can add as many criteria as you like. Options include name, creation date, modification date, size, item type (such as file, folder, or alias), file-type code, and creator code.

Find Any File uses the file system's native search feature, rather than Spotlight's search indexes. This means Find Any File can unearth files Spotlight doesn't even index: It can search within OS X packages, find hidden files, and (for administrators) search with root privileges in order to scour through system files and even other users' files. (The downside to Find Any File's searches is that they can't examine the contents of files.)

One other big advantage of Find Any File is its search-results window. The default view displays a simple list of found items, along with each item's type, modification date, and (for files) size. More useful is a hierarchical (Tree) view. Switch to this view, and Find Any File lists each file within its folder hierarchy, allowing you to see, at a glance, where each found file resides. Find Any File's results window supports Quick Look previews, and it lets you perform standard Finder actions on found items, copy file paths to the Clipboard, and save searches for future use.

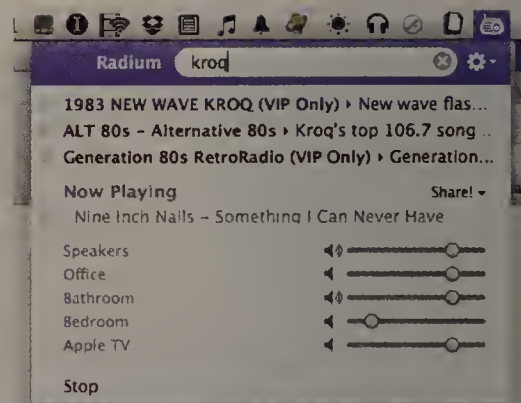
👤👤👤; \$4; Thomas Tempelmann; [macworld.com/6890](http://macworld.com/6890)



## Caffeine 1.1.1

**UTILITY** There are times when you aren't actively doing something on your Mac but you don't want its screen to dim. Instead of manually changing your Energy Saver settings, try some Caffeine. Just click Caffeine's systemwide menu-bar icon to activate a "sleepless" state; when you want to revert your Mac to its normal state, just click the icon again. Your normal Energy Saver settings never change, but your Mac stays wide awake whenever you need it to. Caffeine can also keep your Mac awake for a specific time—5, 10, 15, or 30 minutes, or 1, 2, or 5 hours—after which your Mac automatically returns to its normal Energy Saver behavior.

👤👤👤; free; Lighthouse Software; [macworld.com/6981](http://macworld.com/6981)



## Radium 2.7.5

**AUDIO** Radium is a nifty menu-bar app that makes iTunes' Internet-radio feature feel like an afterthought. Click Radium's menu-bar icon and then type a few characters of what you're looking for—a station's call letters, a genre of music, a keyword—and Radium displays a list of Internet-radio matches. Choose one to play it. Radium's menu displays track info, and the app can send audio to local AirPlay devices.

You can save favorite stations, buy recent tracks on iTunes, and even listen to subscription services such as Last.fm, Live365, Sirius Internet Radio, and XM Radio Online.

👤👤👤; \$25; Catpig Studios; [macworld.com/6980](http://macworld.com/6980)

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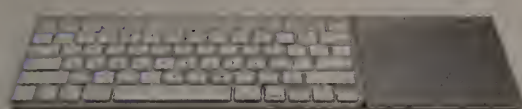
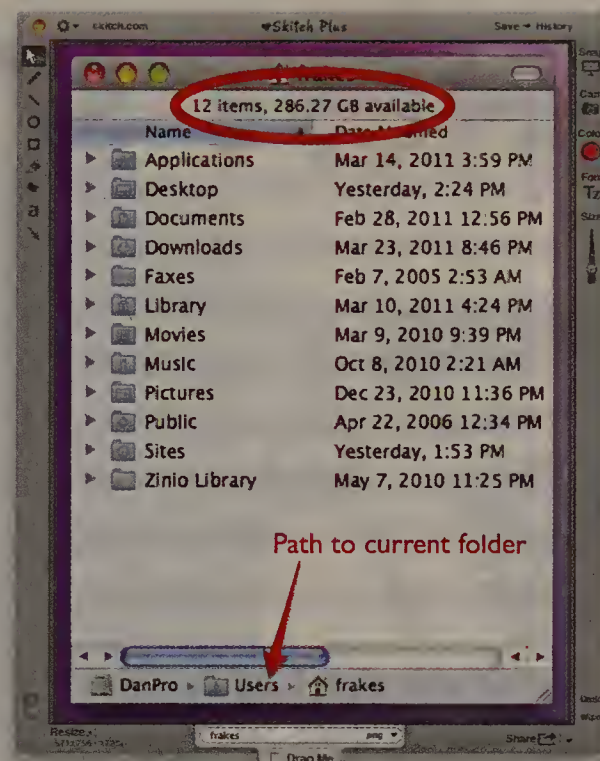


## Skitch 1.0.1

**UTILITY** Skitch is a combination of an application and an online service for taking, editing, annotating, and sharing screenshots. Bring up Skitch's window, and you get an image canvas wrapped with a tool-filled border. Keyboard shortcuts and menu options make it easy to snap a portion of your screen, a specific window, the whole screen, or Skitch itself; or you can import photos from your iPhoto and Aperture libraries. Numerous annotation tools allow you to highlight important elements, and the program offers clever cropping and resizing options: You just drag the corner of your canvas to crop, or the corner of Skitch's window to resize. (You can also type in a specific size.)

Although you need to sign up for a free Skitch.com account to save or share images, the options are plentiful. In addition to saving screenshots to your hard drive or the Skitch.com Website, you can upload them to Flickr, MobileMe, FTP/SFTP, and WebDAV servers. Once you do so, you can post a link on Twitter right from within Skitch. (Via Skitch.com, you can also send your screens to Facebook or Evernote). A \$20-per-year Skitch Plus subscription unlocks additional features and editing tools.—**DAVID CHARTIER**

★★★★½; free; Plus account, \$20 per year; Skitch; [macworld.com/6983](http://macworld.com/6983)

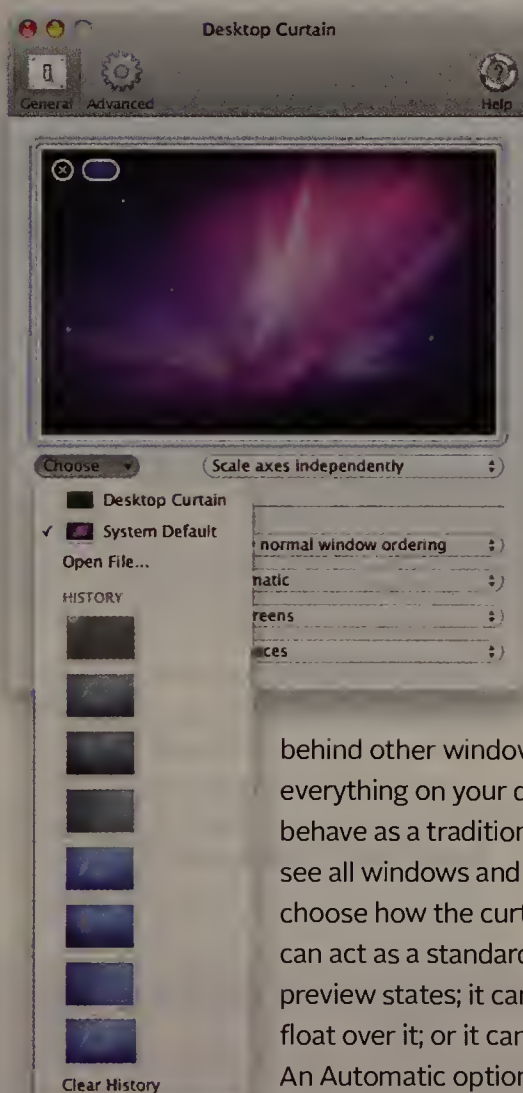


## MagicWand

**ACCESSORY** Apple's Magic Trackpad and Wireless Keyboard seem perfect for each other, and Twelve South's MagicWand is a clever matchmaker. This aluminum-colored plastic rail securely—and discreetly—joins the two together. You snap the battery compartment of each device into the MagicWand's round groove—the Trackpad can go to the right or the left of the keyboard—and then slide the included “H-beam Stabilizer” between them to lock them together. A small piece of gray silicone fills the bit of space between the H-beam and the MagicWand itself.

Once all three pieces are installed, you barely even notice the MagicWand is there, and the setup is surprisingly stable. You'll have to remove the MagicWand to change the battery for whichever device is on the right, and, due to the H-beam piece, you lose some sensitivity in the Magic Trackpad's physical clicker in whichever lower corner is next to the keyboard. But the MagicWand is still impressive, thanks to its device-matching design, stability, and reasonable price.

★★★★; \$30; Twelve South; [macworld.com/6984](http://macworld.com/6984)



## Desktop Curtain 2.1

**UTILITY** Speaking of screenshots, there are times when you want to hide everything but the onscreen object(s) you need to capture—or perhaps you just want to unclutter your screen so you can focus on a task. Desktop Curtain lets you choose a background—an image or a solid color—and then use that background to clean up your screen. Using the program's Dock menu, menu-bar menu, or—my favorite—configurable keyboard shortcut, you can instantly hide or show the Desktop Curtain background.

The “curtain” can act as a normal window, sitting in front of, between, or behind other windows; it can act as a desktop cover, so it covers everything on your desktop but stays behind windows; or it can behave as a traditional desktop background, so you continue to see all windows and anything on your desktop. You can also choose how the curtain interacts with OS X's Exposé feature: It can act as a standard window that embraces Exposé's various preview states; it can remain in place, so that Exposé previews float over it; or it can hide completely when you activate Exposé. An Automatic option attempts to choose the ideal Exposé behavior, taking into account your Curtain Level settings. If you

have multiple displays or use OS X's Spaces feature, you can choose the screens and workspaces in which the curtain appears.

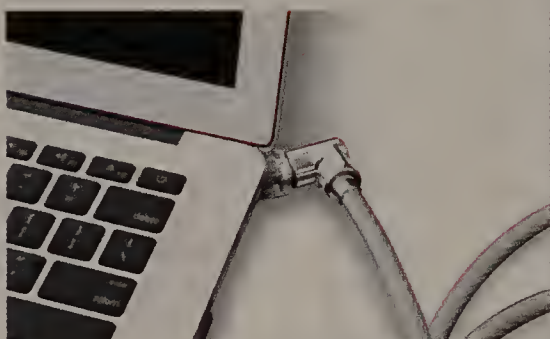
If you frequently take screenshots, Desktop Curtain 2 is ideal for staging those shots. It's also great for helping you focus on a single program, hiding the rest of your onscreen clutter.

★★★★½; \$2; Many Tricks; [macworld.com/6982](http://macworld.com/6982)



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about This Month



## MacBook Air Lock and Security Case Bundle

The MacBook Air's thin, light, and portable design is good news for on-the-go customers—and also, unfortunately, for those who prefer to acquire their wares using the five-finger discount. But because the Air is too thin to include a traditional notebook security slot, Maclocks has taken matters into its own hands. The \$130 MacBook Air Lock and Security Case Bundle includes a case that contains a built-in security slot, along with a cable lock. Once you attach the case to the bottom of your MacBook Air and lock the security cable into its slot, a thief can't detach the case without ruining the computer. Fortunately, Maclocks used a standard security slot, so it should work with just about any of the cable lock systems available on the market; that standardization will come as welcome news to those who already own such locks. The Bundle is compatible with both the 11-inch and 13-inch MacBook Airs ([maclocks.com](http://maclocks.com)).—**DAVID CHARTIER**

## Clips 2.0

This \$5 utility from Conceited Software runs in the background on your Mac, recording and storing all copy-and-paste items on application-specific clipboards. Clips also includes “smart clipboards” that let you do advanced searches for previously cut and pasted items, as well as the ability to drag and drop an e-mail, text snippet, or Web page directly into a Clips panel. The update does omit some advanced features available in previous versions of Clips, including clipboard sharing. Conceited Software has told Clips users who enjoy those features to skip the upgrade ([conceited.net](http://conceited.net)).—**JOEL MATHIS**



## YinYang

Sonnet's \$70 YinYang FireWire 800 to FireWire 400/800 Mini Hub makes it easier to connect FireWire 400 devices to FireWire 800 ports. Just plug the YinYang into any FireWire 800 port, and it gives you two ports, one FireWire 800 and one FireWire 400. You can transfer data to and from FireWire 800 and 400 devices simultaneously without affecting performance. The YinYang is also handy for connecting multiple devices to a single FireWire port without having to daisy-chain them; however, you can use only one bus-powered FireWire device at a time ([www.sonnettech.com](http://www.sonnettech.com)).—**DAN FRAKES**

## Cyberduck 4

Among the major improvements to this FTP client application is support for Dropbox and the Windows Azure cloud service. These additions expand Cyberduck's existing support for cloud services, which include Amazon S3, Google Storage, and Google Docs, among others. The application also supports traditional file-transfer protocols such as FTP, SFTP, and WebDAV. Cyberduck 4 now offers the ability to upload files via either a contextual menu in the Finder or an upload file option that appears in the Services menu. Cyberduck is free if you download it directly from the developer's Website. It's \$24 if you buy it from the Mac App Store ([cyberduck.ch](http://cyberduck.ch)).—**DANNY GALLAGHER**

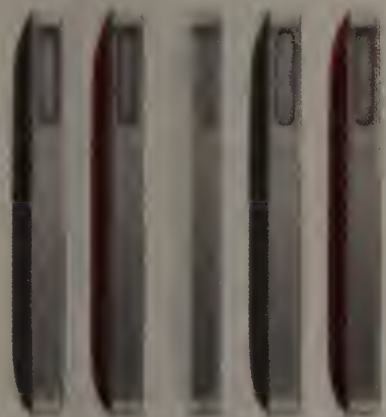


## GELASKINS FOR MAGIC TRACKPAD

Apple's Magic Trackpad may be a technological wonder, but it certainly doesn't look magical. As a matter of fact, it's perhaps the plainest-looking input device ever. If you want a bit more flair, check out GelaSkins' \$15 Magic Trackpad editions. These removable, smooth adhesive skins cover the top of the Magic Trackpad, protecting it from scratches—and spicing it up—without affecting its touch sensitivity. The skins feature designs (49 and counting) from a wide range of notable artists ([gelaskins.com](http://gelaskins.com)).—**DAN FRAKES**








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## 10 Tips for iPad Power Users

Impress others with your iPad savviness by learning these tablet tricks

BY LEX FRIEDMAN

**Y**ou don't need to have used an iPad since the first one hit retail shelves in April 2010 to impress others with your tablet savvy. Master the skills outlined below, and you'll have everyone convinced you're an iPad savant, even if you didn't lay your hands on one until the iPad 2 arrived this spring.

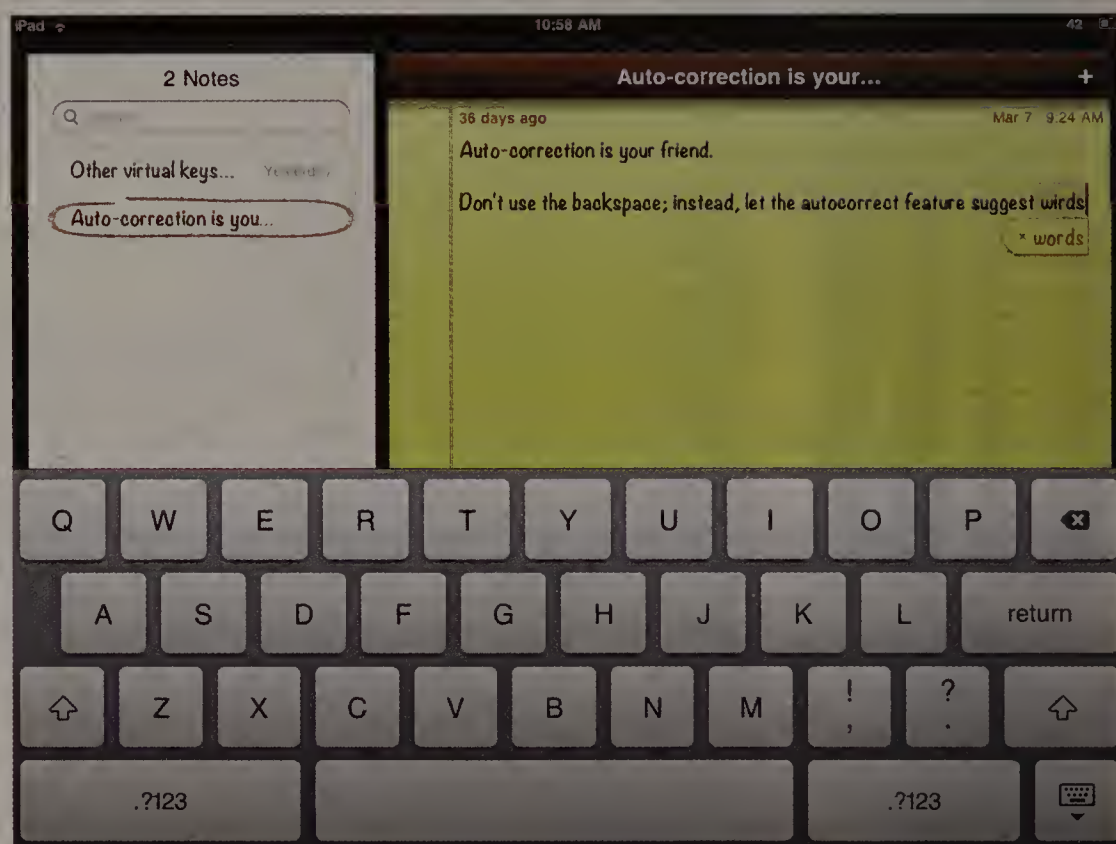
### 1. Put Punctuation Keys to Work

iPad typing isn't as convenient as using a real keyboard when you want to access frequently used punctuation that isn't even available on the virtual keyboard's main screen. A little-known trick can help: Swiping up quickly on the comma key (,) will instantly insert an apostrophe; swiping up on the period key (.) inserts a quotation mark. That's one quick swipe on the specific punctuation key (and not a tap on the .?123 punctuation key, followed by a second tap on the specific punctuation mark you're after).

### 2. Tap and Hold Virtual Keys

Other virtual keys hold special powers, too. Press and hold on a vowel, for example, and a pop-over window containing accented versions of the selected character appears. Certain consonants, like C, S, and N, also offer alternatives when you tap and hold on their virtual keys.

Similarly, holding down punctuation marks can provide extra options. The



**Autocorrect** Relying on suggested corrections will improve your iPad typing speed.

hyphen offers an em dash and bullet. And the dollar sign hides symbols for numerous currencies.

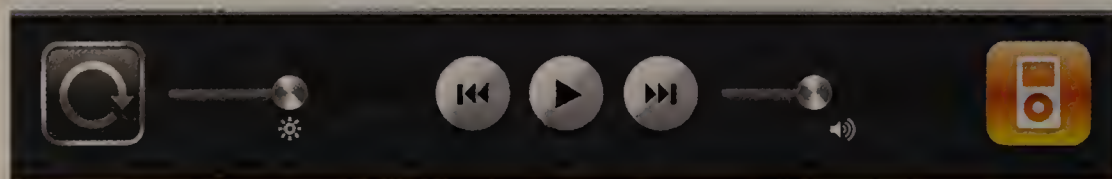
### 3. Use Common Shortcuts

When you connect your iPad to a regular keyboard like the Apple iPad Keyboard Dock (⌘; [macworld.com/7107](http://macworld.com/7107)), you can use some of the same keyboard shortcuts you've mastered on your Mac. Text-editing key combinations—like ⌘-C, ⌘-X, and ⌘-V for Copy, Cut, and Paste,

respectively—all work, as does selecting text with ⌘-Shift plus the arrow keys. Other key combinations that work include Undo and Redo (⌘-Z and Shift-⌘-Z, respectively), and Emacs-style cursor shortcuts like Control-A, Control-E, and Control-K.

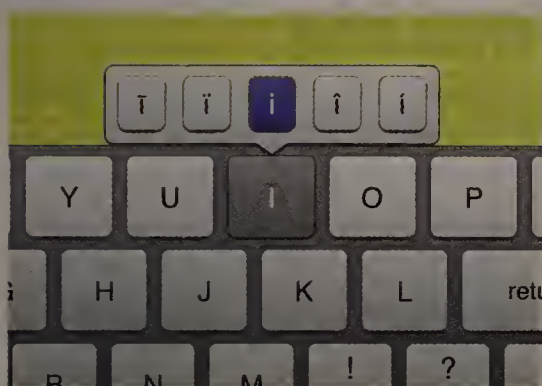
### 4. Trust Autocorrection

The slower your iPad typing speed, the more likely it is that you make frequent use of the backspace key. The easiest way to become a virtual typing pro is simply to let the autocorrection algorithm do its thing. I've trusted the iOS to fix my typos enough in the past so that when I type "Dippieedl," my iPad recognizes I'm after "Supposedly." Fix fewer typos, and, ironically, your iPad typing speed will improve.



**Playback** Double-tap the Home button and swipe to the right, and you'll see these controls.





**Virtual Keys** Tapping and holding some keys reveals alternative keystrokes.

## 5. Avoid Application Exits

Sometimes you notice something you'd like to check out more closely in an app—at the same instant you press the Home button. Instead of letting the app close, then finding its icon and waiting while the app relaunches, you can tell your iPad to abort your now-unwanted Home button press. If you hold down the Home button extra long—for just a few seconds—your iPad will abandon its plans to close the current app.

## 6. Close Background Apps

Ever since iOS 4's introduction of multitasking, some of your apps can keep on running in the background, even after you've closed them. Generally that's fine; the iPad does a great job of killing apps when memory limits require it. Some apps, however—particularly GPS and VoIP apps—can eat up quite a bit of memory and battery life if they remain open when you no longer need them. To make sure these power-hungry apps don't tax your battery, you can force them to quit: Double-tap the Home button to bring up the multitasking bar. Then press and hold on any one app until all the apps start jiggling. In the multitasking bar, tap the red circle on each running app that you'd like to quit.

## 7. Find Music Playback Controls

With the introduction of that multitasking bar, Apple made finding music playback controls a smidgen trickier. After you double-tap the Home button, swipe the whole multitasking bar toward the right. Doing so will reveal several controls: playback buttons (Reverse,

Play/Pause, and Skip), along with sliders for brightness and volume.

## 8. Search Smarter

If you never use (or never need to search) the iPad's calendar, audiobooks, or podcasts, you can remove those from your Spotlight search results. You can also rearrange the order in which Spotlight presents search results. Launch the Settings app, tap on General, and then tap on Spotlight Search. Uncheck the categories you don't want to search, and tap and drag on the right-aligned handles to adjust the sort order.

## 9. Fill Your Dock

Brand-new iPads feature just four apps in the Dock. Because of that, many iPad owners *keep* just four apps in the Dock. But it turns out that the Dock can actually hold *six* apps if you'd like it to. All you

need to do to keep your more frequently accessed apps in the Dock is move them there: Press and hold on any app icon until the apps start to jiggle, and then drag the app you'd like to move right into the Dock.

## 10. Launch Apps Quickly

If you've got a lot of apps on your iPad—so many that it's hard to swipe from home screen to home screen—turn Spotlight into a virtual app launcher. Tap the Home button to get to your first home screen, and then either tap it again or swipe to reveal Spotlight. Start typing the first few letters of the app's name, and then tap on the appropriate result to launch the app instantly. Spotlight automatically surfaces your most frequently used apps at the top of its matching results, which is often very useful.

# iOS Devices: Current Lineup

PRODUCT	SPECS	RATING	PRICE <sup>A</sup>	DISPLAY	PERFORMANCE	FIND CODE <sup>B</sup>
iPad 2 <sup>C</sup>	16GB	Wi-Fi,  3G,	Wi-Fi, \$499; 3G, \$629	9.7-inch color	Up to 10 hours on Wi-Fi; up to 9 hours on 3G	<a href="#">7030</a> Wi-Fi <a href="#">7031</a> 3G
	32GB	Wi-Fi,  3G,	Wi-Fi, \$599; 3G, \$729	9.7-inch color	Up to 10 hours on Wi-Fi; up to 9 hours on 3G	<a href="#">7032</a> Wi-Fi <a href="#">7033</a> 3G
	64GB	Wi-Fi,  3G,	Wi-Fi, \$699; 3G, \$829	9.7-inch color	Up to 10 hours on Wi-Fi; up to 9 hours on 3G	<a href="#">7034</a> Wi-Fi <a href="#">7035</a> 3G
iPhone 3GS and 4	8GB 3GS (AT&T)		\$99	3.5-inch color	9 hours of Wi-Fi Internet; 5 hours of 3G talk time	<a href="#">6255</a>
	16GB 4 (AT&T)		\$199	3.5-inch color (Retina)	10 hours of Wi-Fi Internet; 7 hours of 3G talk time	<a href="#">6256</a>
	32GB 4 (AT&T)		\$299	3.5-inch color (Retina)	10 hours of Wi-Fi Internet; 7 hours of 3G talk time	<a href="#">6257</a>
	16GB 4 (Verizon)		\$199	3.5-inch color (Retina)	10 hours of Wi-Fi Internet; 7 hours of 3G talk time	<a href="#">6943</a>
	32GB 4 (Verizon)		\$299	3.5-inch color (Retina)	10 hours of Wi-Fi Internet; 7 hours of 3G talk time	<a href="#">6944</a>
iPod Touch	8GB		\$229	3.5-inch color (Retina)	40 hours of music playback; 7 hours of video playback	<a href="#">6553</a>
	32GB		\$299	3.5-inch color (Retina)	40 hours of music playback; 7 hours of video playback	<a href="#">6554</a>
	64GB		\$399	3.5-inch color (Retina)	40 hours of music playback; 7 hours of video playback	<a href="#">6555</a>

<sup>A</sup> All prices are Apple's prices. <sup>B</sup> In a browser's address field, typing in a find code after [macworld.com/](#) takes you to a product's review or overview. <sup>C</sup> There are separate Wi-Fi+3G iPad 2 models for AT&T's network and for Verizon's.



## What AT&T's T-Mobile Purchase Means for You

BY DAN MOREN

In March, AT&T said it would buy T-Mobile USA in a \$39 billion deal that creates the nation's biggest wireless carrier in terms of subscribers. While the AT&T takeover of T-Mobile will require regulatory approval—and we could be waiting until 2012 for that to happen—a combined AT&T/T-Mobile behemoth will affect the wireless industry in general and iPhone users in particular.

**Better Coverage** AT&T stands to gain a bounty of existing cell towers in the United States, allowing the carrier to expand its network coverage rapidly. The expansion could increase coverage in buildings and allow the network to be more flexible in the case of events that might cause heavy clusters of usage.

**LTE Expansion** AT&T had been planning to migrate to Long-Term Evolution (LTE) technology this year, bringing about a 4G wireless network with faster data speeds and improved capacity. Adding T-Mobile's cell sites will allow AT&T's LTE network to reach 95 percent of the U.S. population. It's unlikely that a 4G iPhone will arrive this year, but a merger would give such a phone wider reach.

**T-Mobile iPhone** A merger won't give T-Mobile customers immediate access to Apple's handset. But it will offer a road map for customers who want an iPhone but don't want to abandon their network.

**Less Competition** If T-Mobile becomes a part of AT&T, that leaves the United States with just three major carriers. And it could be even fewer—Sprint Nextel may find itself unable to compete and may pursue a merger with Verizon. (Verizon says it has no interest in a merger.) Fewer choices means less incentive for carriers to provide competitive pricing and features.

## Using Apple's Find My iOS Device Service

BY DAN MOREN

**R**ealizing you've misplaced your iPhone or iPad can be a heart-stopping moment. Thankfully, the bag of tricks for these technological marvels includes the ability to tell you where they are. All it takes on your part is a little forethought and the free Find My iPhone (or iPad, or iPod touch) service for iPhone 4, fourth-generation iPod touch, and iPad users.

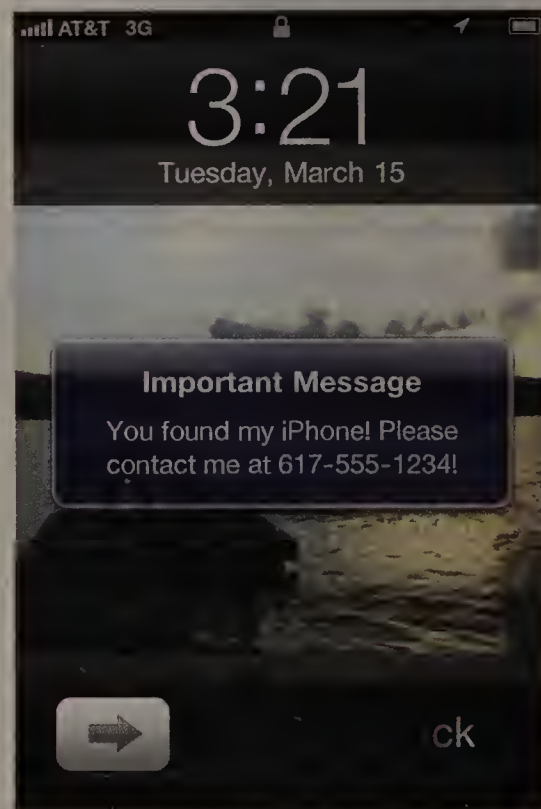
### Enable the Service

Once your account is set up in the Mail, Contacts, Calendars section of the Settings app, it's time to turn on the device-finding service. Navigate to Settings ► Mail, Contacts, Calendar and tap on your MobileMe account, where you'll see a Find My Device slider. (The last word will be the name of the relevant device.) When you flip the switch on, you'll be notified that this feature allows your device to be located on a map; tap Allow, and then tap the Done button in the top right corner (on the iPad) or the Mail arrow in the top left (on the iPhone and iPod touch).

### Test the Service

Now that your device is set up, test things out via Apple's MobileMe Website ([www.me.com](http://www.me.com)). Once you sign in, you'll see a map of the world, along with a list of your devices running down the left side of the page. A green dot next to a device means that it has been located; a red dot means that it can't be found (usually because the device is powered off or in Airplane Mode). Clicking any device will show you the device's location on a map, with the precision of the location depending on whether your device has a GPS chip.

Clicking on a blue arrow by the device gives you options for remotely controlling your device. If you've misplaced your iOS device, and you want to offer a reward or provide contact information,



**SOS** With Find My iOS Device, you can post a message on your misplaced phone.

you can opt to display a message and play a sound. If you've left your unprotected iPhone somewhere—in a restaurant or a doctor's office, say—you can secure the device by sending a remote lock command. In the worst-case scenario—the kind where you don't expect to get your device back—you can make sure that nobody else has access to your data by completely erasing it. Just click Wipe, and select the checkbox to confirm that you know this decision is irreversible.

### Installing the Find My iPhone App

If you have access to another iOS device when your own device goes missing, turn to the Find My iPhone app ([macworld.com/7087](http://macworld.com/7087)). Just enter your Apple ID and password, and the app will show you a list of iOS devices associated with that account. At that point, you can use the app to do everything that you are able to do via the Web interface, including wiping your device remotely.



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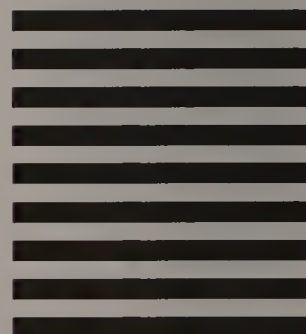
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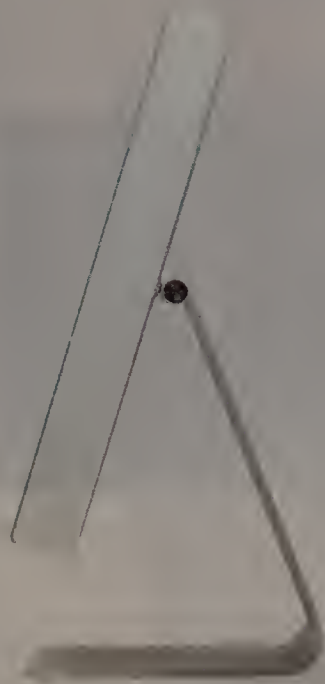
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- 8 Outlets
- 550 VA/330 Watts
- 43 minutes maximum runtime
- Telephone Surge Protection



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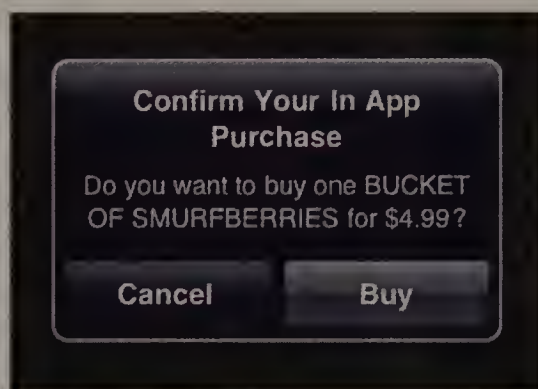
# Apple Alters In-App Purchase Rules

BY SERENITY CALDWELL

Children enjoying the digital delights of Smurfs' Village ([macworld.com/7084](http://macworld.com/7084)) and other popular iOS games will no longer be able to buy additional items within the app without first entering a password, thanks to a new safety precaution implemented by Apple in iOS 4.3.

Previously, when users tapped out their Apple ID and password to buy an app or make an in-app purchase, their device would store that password for 15 minutes. That made it easier for users to buy multiple things in one go. But it also had an unintended consequence—children were taking advantage of this feature to rack up unexpected charges when playing games with in-app purchases. That raised the hackles of both parents and government agencies. (The Federal Trade Commission, for one, is looking into the matter.)

With iOS 4.3, though, Apple has rejiggered things. There are now discrete 15-minute windows both for buying apps from the App Store and for purchasing things from within the apps themselves. In other words, after you buy an app from the



**Password Please** You'll see this prompt for in-app purchases a lot more in iOS 4.3.

App Store, you can continue to buy other apps from the store itself during the 15 minutes without reentering your password. Try to make a purchase from within the app you bought, however, and you'll be prompted to enter your password again.

"With iOS 4.3, in addition to a password being required to purchase an app on the App Store, a reentry of your password is now required when making an in-app purchase," Apple spokesperson Trudy Muller told the *Washington Post* ([macworld.com/7085](http://macworld.com/7085)). That move may ease parental fears; we'll see if it satisfies the FTC.

## SPOTLIGHT ON IPAD CASES

### Gumdrop Drop Series

Judging from the amount of engineering that has gone into its design and construction, the Drop Series from Gumdrop ([macworld.com/7086](http://macworld.com/7086)) seems aptly named. It looks like it could protect your iPad 2 from any type of destruction short of the apocalypse. It boasts dual-material construction for better shock absorption, reinforced rubber bumpers on its corners, and even screen and port covers for times when you want extra security. Luckily, safety doesn't come at the cost of style—the \$60 case is available in black/red, black/black, pink/white, or white/black.—MARCO TABINI



## What's New at the App Store



### Google Revamps Mobile Search App

Google's free iOS search app has a new name and a new gesture-happy interface. Previously known as Google Mobile App, the revamped Google Search ([macworld.com/5533](http://macworld.com/5533)) features support for gestures that add flexibility to both your search and the app's interface. You can now swipe to the right to filter search results for types of data like images, news, and discussions. A downward swipe will bring you back to the main search area, with access to voice search and Google Goggles.—DAVID CHARTIER



### LocalEats iPad App Takes a Global View

With the debut of an iPad version of its restaurant-finding app, LocalEats.com is expanding its scope beyond the United States. In addition to offering listings of vetted eateries in 51 major U.S. cities, LocalEats for iPad ([macworld.com/7082](http://macworld.com/7082)) covers 50 cities around the globe. The iPad app also offers travel tips and other information about those international cities. Look for the iPhone version ([macworld.com/4203](http://macworld.com/4203)) to include the international cities in the near future.—PHILIP MICHAELS



### WordPress Irons Out Bugs

WordPress has updated its blogging app for iPhone and iPad, correcting more than 100 bugs and tweaking its user interface. In addition to fixing bugs and crashes, WordPress 2.7 ([macworld.com/7083](http://macworld.com/7083)) also adds a new "pull to refresh" feature, which enables users to see the latest comments, posts, and pages on the blogs that they manage. The app can be used to moderate and post to a WordPress.com blog, or to a self-hosted WordPress.org site running version 2.9.2 or higher.—JOEL MATHIS



## PDFpen: Feature #2 – Redact Private Information



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# APP GUIDE

Software for Your iPhone, iPod Touch, and iPad

## Tapper World Tour HD 1.2

**GAMES** The '80s classic gets a 21st-century makeover for the iPad, with fun, cartoonish graphics from animator Don Bluth. You can control the game with a virtual d-pad, but the touch-control options—just tap the screen to serve a steady stream of unruly bar patrons—are better suited to the iPad's interface. Different gameplay modes, exotic locales, and a series of power-ups keep things fresh in a solid, casual game that will have you coming back for more.—**PHILIP MICHAELS**

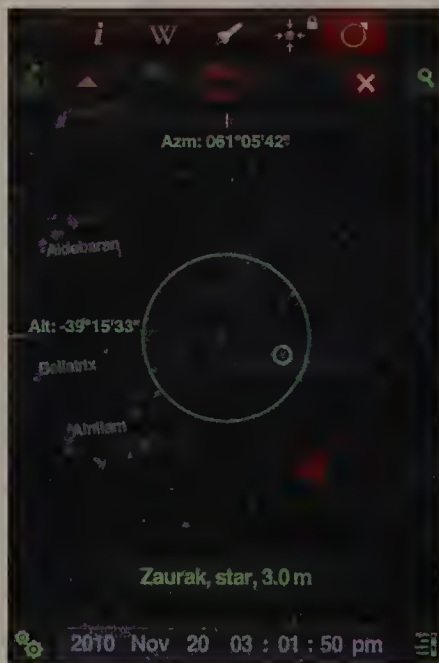
iPad | ; \$3; Warner Bros.; [macworld.com/7057](http://macworld.com/7057)



## Save2PDF 1.1.3

**PRODUCTIVITY** Whether you use this iPad-optimized app or its iPhone and iPod touch counterpart ([macworld.com/7066](http://macworld.com/7066)), Save2PDF provides a fairly unique function—you can save documents on your mobile device as PDFs. It's a simple matter of installing the app, tapping Print and following the dialog box to save whatever file you're viewing as a PDF in a local directory. Other features include the ability to combine multiple files into a single PDF, organize files and folders, and create space-saving compressed files.—**JEFF MERRON**

iPad | ; \$10; EuroSmartz; [macworld.com/7067](http://macworld.com/7067)



## Redshift 1.1.1


**REFERENCE** When it comes to astronomy apps, there's an embarrassment of riches in the App Store, and Redshift adds to the ranks of excellent stargazing options. The Universal app uses your current location to show you precisely which stars, constellations, and planets you should be able to see. And it comes packed with impressive features like a night-vision mode that makes your screen easier to see in the dark, the ability to control display options, and a 3D flight mode to animate your interstellar journey.—**LEX FRIEDMAN**

iPad/iPhone | ; \$10; USM; [macworld.com/7068](http://macworld.com/7068)

### APP GEMS

#### iPhone Space Games



**N.O.V.A. 2** 

First-person shooter goes sci-fi in this graphically stunning sequel ([macworld.com/7079](http://macworld.com/7079)).



**Earth Defense Force**  [macworld.com/7080](http://macworld.com/7080)



**Starfront—Collision**  [macworld](http://macworld.com/7081)

Find more games for your iPhone at [macworld.com/6179](http://macworld.com/6179).

## myPhoneDesktop 1.8

**UTILITIES** Any piece of data—from hard-to-type URLs to images—can easily move from your computer to your iPhone, iPod touch, or iPad, with the help of myPhoneDesktop. This clever pasteboard utility features a fancy Web-based application that lets you classify the data you're working with. The data then appears on your device, within either a designated app or an appropriate service. (A Google Maps URL, for example, opens in your device's Maps app.) On the iPad, an optimized interface comes in especially handy for working with text-based information on a larger display area.—**BRIAN BEAM**

iPad/iPhone | ; \$5; jProductivity; [macworld.com/7069](http://macworld.com/7069)



2011

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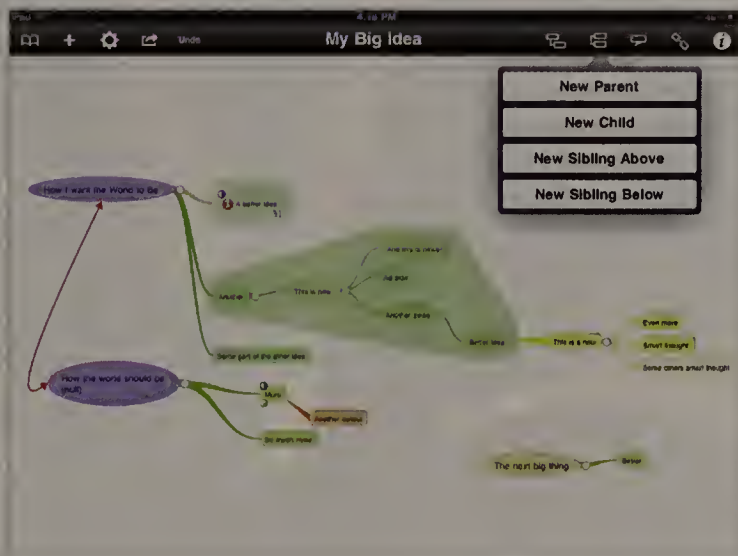
NOTIFICATIONS

## Calvetica 3.6

**ORGANIZATION** Like the typeface that inspired its name, Calvetica offers a simple, clean look and feel. But it also provides helpful features that are missing in the default Calendar app. As you type in new events, icons appear that enable you to set reminders and times; and you can enter events with fewer taps than Calendar requires. Calvetica can also provide a prompt that lets you specify the calendar to use when setting an event, saving you from assigning something to the wrong calendar.—**BEAU COLBURN**  
iPhone | ; \$3; Mysterious Trousers;  
[macworld.com/7070](http://macworld.com/7070)

## iThoughtsHD 1.11

**PRODUCTIVITY** The iPad's large screen makes an inviting canvas for mind mapping, and iThoughtsHD may be the best brainstorming tool of its ilk. It offers a number of ways for you to manipulate and add new ideas to your map, including keyboard shortcuts that help you keep your fingers on the keys while you spin new ideas. And the app has a feature set rivaling those of desktop-based mind-mapping tools.—**JEFFERY BATTERSBY**  
iPad | ; \$10; CMS; [macworld.com/7072](http://macworld.com/7072)



## More Reviews

See more iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch apps we've tested at iOS Central ([macworld.com/4164](http://macworld.com/4164)).

APPLICATION	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	RATING	FIND CODE*
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<b>Best Alarm Clock 2.4</b> myNewApps.com	Universal alarm clock	\$1		7074
<b>GadgetTrak 2.5</b> ActiveTrak	device-tracking app	\$4		7075
<b>Picturesque 1.0.1</b> Kelibo	kid-friendly iPad canvas	\$1		7076
<b>VLC Remote 5.65</b> Hobbyist Software	remote for VLC player	\$5		7077

\* In a browser's address field, typing in a find code after [macworld.com/](http://macworld.com/) directs you to a product's review or overview. For example, [macworld.com/7073](http://macworld.com/7073) takes you to our review of 60 Minutes

## ESSENTIAL APPS

### AirPlay-Ready

iOS 4.3 lets optimized third-party apps like this trio stream content to your Apple TV through AirPlay ([macworld.com/7078](http://macworld.com/7078)).



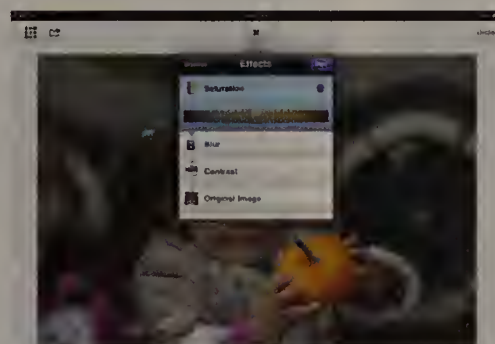
**Air Video** You don't even need to store videos on your mobile device to enjoy video streaming, thanks to this app.



**iMovie** Those masterpieces you've created in Apple's mobile video editor can now find their way to your Apple TV.



**Discovery Channel HD** Beam clips from your favorite Discovery Channel shows.



## TouchUp 6

**PHOTOGRAPHY** If you're intimidated by Photoshop or even by iPhoto's photo editing controls, TouchUp may provide the right mix of powerful functionality and ease of use. TouchUp packs in more than a dozen effects, which you can add to your photos in any combination you like and adjust, without fear of destroying the original.—**LEX FRIEDMAN**  
iPad | ; \$5; RogueSheep;  
[macworld.com/7071](http://macworld.com/7071)

## App Guide

Get more reviews, including reader reviews, as well as listings for every iOS app at [AppGuide.com](http://AppGuide.com).







# GOT A MAC PROBLEM?

HERE ARE ANSWERS TO THE MOST COMMON TROUBLESHOOTING QUESTIONS.

# HELP!



Mac<sup>s</sup> are wonderful computers, and, compared to some of the more cantankerous gadgets in our lives, they're nearly trouble-free. But *nearly* means nothing when your Mac decides to misbehave in ways that stretch from mildly annoying to data-destroying. Thankfully, much of the time you can put your computer back on the straight and narrow by identifying problems and then taking appropriate steps to fix them. And that's where we come in.

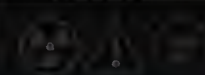
For over a decade, we've offered tips and troubleshooting advice in our *Mac 911* column based on our readers' experiences. And we've been keeping a list of problems that crop up time and again. In the following pages we reveal that list in the form of a Greatest Hits collection of common conundrums. If your Mac is acting up, there's an excellent chance that you'll find the cause and the cure to its problems here.

By Christopher Breen | ILLUSTRATIONS BY JOHN UELAND

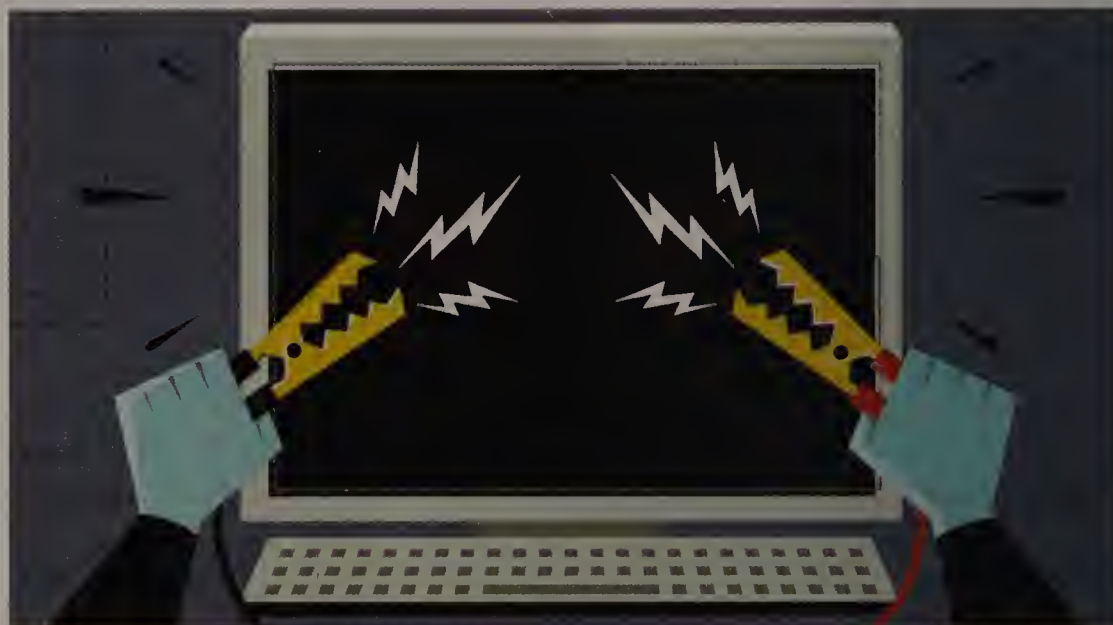


# STARTUP ISSUES

WHAT TO DO WHEN YOUR MAC DOESN'T POWER UP CORRECTLY



➔ Without a doubt, the issues that cause the greatest consternation to Mac users are those that keep the computer from starting up or, if the computer deigns to boot, that prevent the Mac from operating as it should once it eventually makes its way to the Finder. Here are common startup issues and their solutions.



## NO POWER

**Q** Why won't my Mac start up when I press the Power button?

**A** If your Mac does nothing when you mash the Power button—no whirring, blinking lights, or startup sound—you should immediately investigate whether it's receiving the life-giving power it craves. Ensure that the power cord is plugged in—into the Mac as well as into a live power receptacle. If you have a wall switch or power strip that controls a power receptacle, check that it's switched on. If all the power connections appear correct, try swapping in a different power cord or power adapter.

If all seems right in the power world, press your ear to your Mac and listen for sounds of life. It's possible that it is powered on but no image is displaying on its monitor. If you have an external monitor, make sure it's plugged into your Mac, powered on, and set to the correct input. Regardless of the monitor you're using, adjust its brightness in case it's completely dimmed. If you've

done all this and the Mac remains totally unresponsive, it's time to take it to the shop.

## MOVING BEYOND THE GRAY SCREEN

**Q** My Mac starts up but then stops: I see nothing but a gray screen, a blinking folder icon, or an Apple logo with an endlessly spinning gear icon.

**A** Plenty of things could be causing the problem, and they range from the benign to the deadly.

Starting with the most benign, the culprit could be a peripheral or its driver. To find out if that's the case, shut down the Mac (hold down the power button until the Mac shuts off), unplug as many peripherals from your Mac as you can (even the keyboard and mouse), and then reboot. If the Mac starts up normally, shut it down again and then plug in one of the peripherals (keyboard or mouse first), and start up your computer again.

If it does so successfully, repeat the process, adding one peripheral at a time until your Mac acts up. At that point,

disconnect the last peripheral you added, reboot your Mac, and search the peripheral vendor's Website for an updated driver. If no driver exists or the problem remains after installing the new driver, try a different cable or a different port on your Mac.

If that doesn't work, restart your Mac with your peripherals disconnected (except for the keyboard, mouse, and monitor) and hold down the Shift key to start up the Mac in Safe Boot mode. Safe Boot runs a smaller set of extensions and triggers Apple's hard-drive repair utility. If the Mac starts up correctly, restart without pressing the Shift key.

If the Mac still won't boot properly, shut it down and restart it while holding down ⌘-Option-P-R; keep holding them until you hear the Mac make its startup sound twice. Release the keys and pray that your Mac starts correctly. This key combination resets parameter RAM (PRAM) on PowerPC Macs and nonvolatile RAM (NVRAM) on Intel Macs. These resets can cure such ills as improper display resolution and confusion over which startup disk to use.

If that doesn't do the job, try to boot from your Mac's startup DVD or another

OS X installation disc. (Insert the disc and boot the Mac while holding down the C key.) When the Mac boots from the disc, choose **Utility ▶ Disk Utility**, select the Mac's regular startup disk in the volume list, and, in the First Aid tab, click the **Repair Disk** button. If no problems are found, also click the **Repair Permissions** button. After permissions have been repaired, restart your Mac.

If Disk Utility does no good, you can try a third-party tool such as Alsoft's DiskWarrior ([www.alfsoft.com](http://www.alfsoft.com)). DiskWarrior can repair the kind of low-level corruption that prevents your Mac from booting (see "Beyond Disk Utility").

Still no luck? Remove any third-party RAM installed in the Mac. Your Mac's manual tells you how. If you've lost your manual, you can find a PDF copy on Apple's Support site ([support.apple.com/manuals](http://support.apple.com/manuals)).

Finally, try reinstalling OS X. Snow Leopard doesn't provide an Archive And Install option, as did previous versions of

OS X. Rather, it installs a fresh copy of Snow Leopard (without archiving old system files), but leaves the rest of your files in place.

If none of these measures work—particularly if you can't boot your Mac from another drive or an OS X disc—contact Apple or an Apple Authorized Service Provider. The Contact Apple Support Web page tells you how ([www.apple.com/support/contact](http://www.apple.com/support/contact)).

## CURES FOR A PANICKED MAC

**Q** My Mac starts up but it crashes shortly thereafter, displaying a screen of gibberish.

**A** That "gibberish" is a kernel panic—an error so severe that it takes down your entire Mac rather than simply crashing an application. Characterized by a gray screen that descends from the top of your Mac's display, a

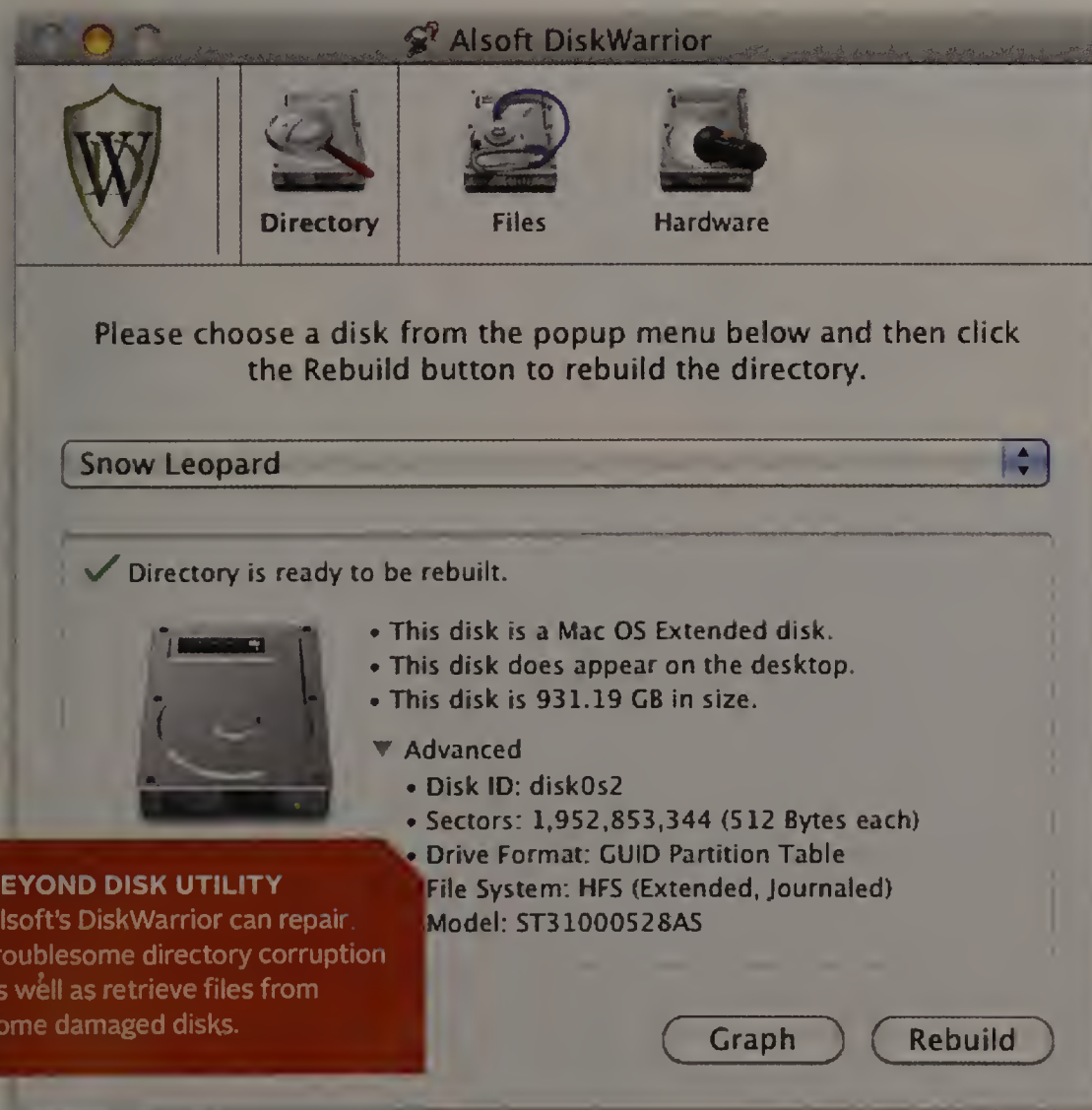
kernel panic requires that you restart your Mac (usually by pressing and holding its power button).

More often than not, kernel panics are hardware based. Specifically, incompatible RAM can cause kernel panics. If you've just installed new RAM and you experience a kernel panic, that RAM could be incompatible (or you've failed to seat the new RAM properly). In such a case, shut down your Mac, make sure the RAM is firmly inserted, and restart the Mac. If it panics again, remove the new RAM and replace it with the original RAM. If the Mac then behaves normally, contact the RAM dealer for a replacement.

Peripherals and their incompatible drivers can also cause kernel panics. As with gray-screen problems, disconnect peripherals and see if the panic stops occurring. Also update the drivers for your peripherals.

Startup items can also be a problem. Start up your Mac in Safe Boot mode as previously described. If the Mac is panic free in this mode, choose **Apple menu ▶ System Preferences ▶ Accounts**, and make a note of the items listed in the Login Items tab, as well as their location. To find an item's location, Control-click (or right-click) on it and choose **Reveal In Finder**. The location should not only give you an idea of its purpose, but also make it easier to remove that item.

While you can choose to remove all your login items by selecting them and clicking the minus-sign (–) button, start by selecting just those items you don't think you need (login items for old applications you no longer use, for example). Restart your Mac in the hope that the panics disappear. If not, restart in Safe Boot mode, remove all the login items, and restart. If the panic stops, add back one login item at a time by clicking the plus-sign (+) button. After each addition, restart your Mac and see how it fares. If it panics when you install a particular login item, remove that item, test again, and, if it proves to be the problem, seek out an update to the host application or function or do without it.



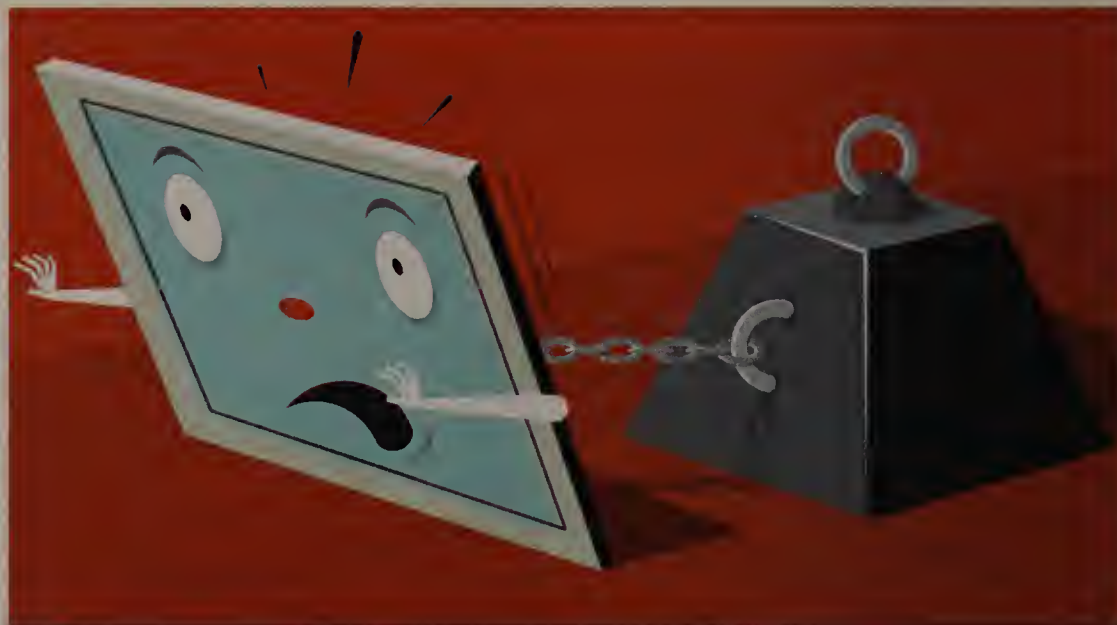


# SYSTEM ISSUES

MYSTERIOUS SLOWDOWNS AND SPINNING BEACH BALLS



➔ Your Mac may boot up beautifully, but perhaps its performance isn't everything it could be. It's slow, or the spinning rainbow cursor appears far too often. Treat these problems—and more—with these cures.



## SPEED UP A SLOTHFUL MAC

**Q** Why does my Mac run so slowly?

**A** When describing a “slow” Mac, it helps to focus on exactly what it is about your Mac that’s sluggish. If the Finder is poky, for example, and your Mac’s desktop is packed with nongeneric icons, all those icons are slowing down the Finder because it’s drawing each icon as a separate window, which takes time (see “Stuffed Screen”). You also want to keep the Mac from performing needless Finder calculations: Open a window in the Finder, choose View ► Show View Options, and ensure that the Calculate All Sizes option is unchecked.

If your Mac plods along when it’s performing Internet-related work, it’s likely that your broadband connection is the bottleneck. Go to a Website such as Ookla’s Speedtest.net ([www.speedtest.net](http://www.speedtest.net)) to see how fast your connection is. If your Web browser specifically performs slowly, quit and relaunch it. Memory leaks that seem to be part and parcel of today’s Web

browsers can slow down these applications. If the browser remains sluggish, empty its cache. (In Safari, choose Safari ► Empty Cache. In Firefox, choose Firefox ► Preferences, select the Network tab of the Advanced preference, and click the Clear Now button in the Offline Storage area.)

It’s also possible that a particular application is chewing up a lot of your Mac’s attention. Launch Activity Monitor (/Applications/Utilities), click

the CPU heading, and see what floats to the top. If an application takes up a large chunk of the CPU and won’t let it go, it could be dragging down your Mac’s performance. (Note that some processes can hog a lot of your CPU cycles, but they do so for only a brief time. You’re looking for processes that routinely devour major portions of your CPU.) If it’s a process or application you can do without, quit it by clicking the Quit Process button at the top of the



**STUFFED SCREEN**  
An overcrowded desktop not only makes finding what you need on it difficult, but also slows down your Mac.





Ultra**shock**  
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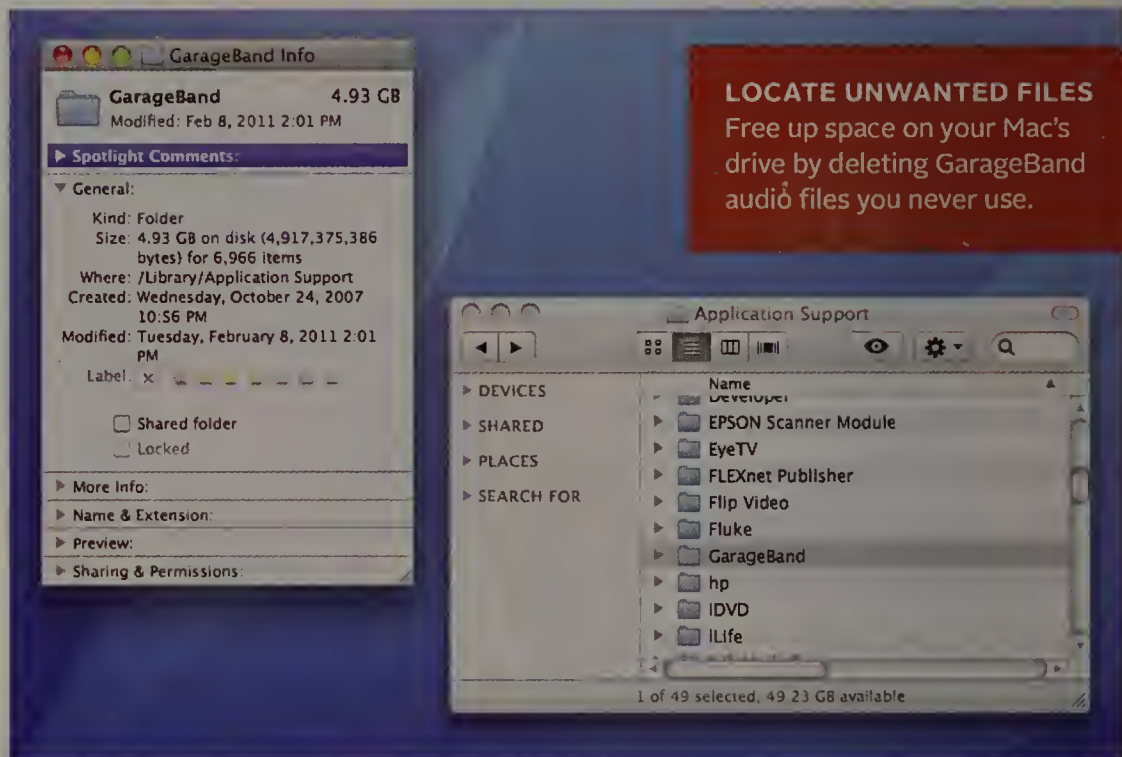
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## FEATURES

Help!



Activity Monitor window. (If it's an application, first save your work.)

A Mac can also be slow when you have too little RAM or free hard-drive space. Today's Macs want a minimum of 2GB of RAM but will perform better with more. And a nearly full hard drive can slow down your Mac because the Mac has to work harder to find places to store virtual memory. If your Mac shipped with a slow hard drive (5400 rpm, for example)—as does the Mac mini—consider replacing the drive with a faster one, or boot from a faster external drive.

## THE SPINNING BEACH BALL OF DEATH

**Q** I keep seeing the spinning rainbow cursor in an application and I can't do anything with that application until it goes away. How can I get rid of this thing?

**A** Commonly known as the Spinning Beach Ball of Death (SBBOD), this cursor is the bane of Mac users everywhere. The Mac displays it to signal "I haven't crashed, I'm busy. Keep your shirt on, please." Regrettably, you may have to remain clothed for minutes at a time before the cursor disappears.

Sometimes the SBBOD appears for a very good reason—when the Mac correctly needs to spend a fair amount of time accomplishing a particular task. For example, you might see it when your Mac is retrieving and indexing six months' worth of old e-mail or pulling together a massive iTunes library. In such cases, give the Mac the time it needs to finish its job.

If you see the SBBOD frequently and you haven't restarted your Mac in a while, now's the time. Doing so can set things right. If, however, you continue to see the SBBOD after restarting your Mac, launch Activity Monitor (/Applications/Utilities) to see if a particular application or process is eating up your processor. If so, again, update or do without.

The SBBOD can also appear when you have too little RAM or free hard-drive space. In such cases you may see the SBBOD anywhere—even in the Finder. And, of course, if an application is completely hung up, it can display this loathsome ball. Force-quitting the application will take care of a hung-up app. (You can force-quit applications from within Activity Monitor by selecting the application and clicking the Quit Process button at the top of the window. Or simply press  $\text{⌘}$ -Option-Escape; select the misbehaving application in the Force Quit Applications window, displayed in red; and then click the Force Quit button.)

## SEEKING FAT FILES

**Q** My hard drive is almost out of space. What's taking up all that room?

**A** Start with the usual suspects. If you've installed iLife but you'll never use GarageBand, go to /Library/Application Support and toss out the GarageBand folder; it contains nearly 5GB of audio files. Move to the Audio folder in that same Library folder and you'll discover an Apple Loops folder that may have another gigabyte of audio files. You can toss that too. Similarly, the iDVD folder, within the Application Support folder, weighs in at just over 2GB. If you don't use iDVD, out it goes.

Next, locate your iPhoto Library file, or Aperture Library file if you use Aperture (found by default in *youruserfolder/Photos*), and Control-click on it. Select the iPod Photo Cache folder and press ⌘-I to get the Info window. You may be surprised at how much data it holds. Inside this folder are images you've converted for display on an iPod or iOS device—even those files that you no longer sync with your device. Toss out the images to free up a lot of space. When you later sync images to your device, iTunes will create new converted copies.

To locate very large files (rather than folders brimming with files), move to the Finder and press ⌘-F to bring up the Search window. Click the plus-sign (+) button and configure the pop-up menus near the top of the window to read Size Is Greater Than 1GB. All the individual files that exceed 1GB will appear in the list. Find any you don't need and toss them out. Save this search in the sidebar by clicking the Save button near the top of the window so you can easily pull it up later.

## RESET THE ADMINISTRATOR PASSWORD

**Q** I've forgotten my administrator password, and I can't

log in to my account. How can I get back into my Mac?

**A** Insert either the installation disc that came with your Mac or a compatible OS X disc, and start up the Mac while holding down the C key. When the Mac eventually starts up, choose Utilities ► Reset Password. In the Reset Password window that appears, choose the user account for which you want to reset the password, enter and verify a new password for that user account, and click Save. Restart your Mac, and you'll be able to use the new password to log in and access your files.

Note that changing this password does not change the password of the login keychain—the file where personal information such as Website and e-mail account names and passwords are stored. To unlock the keychain and use this stored information, you must have the original password you assigned to the administrator account.

If you can't use this keychain (because you can't recall its password), go to *youruserfolder/Library/Keychains* and move the login.keychain file out of the Keychains folder. Log out of your account and log back in. A fresh login keychain will be created for you—one tied to your current password that you can start using.

As for the old keychain, keep it around in case you suddenly recall your old password. If you do, you can remove the current login.keychain file and replace it with the old one containing your old accounts and passwords. Log out and then back in. You can now update the old password to the new one by launching Keychain Access and choosing Edit ► Change Password For Keychain Login. You'll be prompted for your old password and a new password.

## RECALLING SAVED PASSWORDS

**Q** I remember my administrator password but routinely forget passwords for e-mail accounts and Websites. Where can I find them?

# No More Scratches. Ever.



BodyGuardz Clear Skins

+ Entire Apple family

Also available in Armor Carbon Fiber

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**A** Launch Keychain Access (in /Applications/Utilities), locate the entry for the e-mail account or Website for which you've forgotten the password, and double-click on it. In the window that appears next, select the Show Password option. You'll be prompted for your administrator password. Enter it and click Allow. The password you're looking for will appear in the Password field.

Keychain Access is a really useful tool and a worthy part of the Mac OS.

But if you create and store a lot of passwords, you should consider investing in Agile Web Solutions' \$40 1Password ([agilewebsolutions.com](http://agilewebsolutions.com)). It not only easily stores all the passwords you need for Websites, but can also generate, store, and recall complex passwords—the kind of passwords that, although they're darned near impossible to crack, are also impractical because it's so hard to memorize them.

## WHERE TO GO FOR HELP

Well-behaved though the Mac normally is, it can fail in unexpected ways. Obviously we can't provide you with solutions to every problem your Mac may face. So, when you've reached the limits of this little guide and your own knowledge, where do you go for additional help? Try these resources:

**Apple's Support Pages** Apple produces KnowledgeBase articles by the virtual ton (see [www.apple.com/support](http://www.apple.com/support)). Many of these articles contain solutions to problems you might have with your Apple gear. Also within these pages you'll find information for contacting AppleCare ([www.apple.com/support/contact](http://www.apple.com/support/contact)). If your Mac is still under warranty or you've purchased AppleCare, get in touch.

**Apple Discussion Forums** When Mac users have problems with their computers, they often flock to Apple's Discussion Forums ([discussions.apple.com](http://discussions.apple.com)). Although not monitored by Apple (at least not officially), these forums are packed with a lot of smart people, many of whom are happy to lend a helping hand. Be polite (this is a no-rant zone) and explain your issue thoroughly, and chances are you'll receive a helpful response.

**Macworld's Forums** Speaking of knowledgeable people—and at the risk of promoting our own brand—may we suggest that you share your problems with visitors to our own Macworld forums ([forums.macworld.com](http://forums.macworld.com))? As with Apple's Discussion Forums, we have our share of Apple gurus (including members of the Macworld staff).

**The Genius Bar** The hardworking people behind the counter at the Apple Stores' Genius Bars have seen just about every problem a Mac can have ([www.apple.com/retail/geniusbar](http://www.apple.com/retail/geniusbar)). They have access to Apple's secret troubleshooting and repair documents and know how to put them to good use. And if there's something they can't fix on site, they can get your Mac to a repair facility in short order.

**Apple-Authorized Service Provider** Much as Apple would love for you to visit a Genius, not every town has an Apple Store. And even those that do often have a Mac repair shop staffed by technicians with even more experience than the Geniuses. Find Authorized Service Providers around the world by visiting [support.apple.com/kb/ht1434](http://support.apple.com/kb/ht1434).

**iFixIt** If you're a do-it-yourselfer, trip on over to iFixIt ([www.ifixit.com](http://www.ifixit.com)). Here you'll find beautifully documented manuals and guides for repairing your Apple gear as well as access to many of the parts you need to do the job.



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the new iPad 2

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# ADDRESS BOOK, iCAL & MAIL

MANAGING DUPLICATE ENTRIES, UNSYNCD CALENDARS, AND SPAM



➔ Although Apple has avoided using the term *iPIM* to describe Address Book, iCal, and Mail, these three tools form the core component of personal information management on the Mac. Given that they provide such a valuable service, it's important that they perform at their best. These solutions can help make that happen.



## ADDRESS BOOK

### DEALING WITH DUPLICATES

**Q** When I open Address Book, I see lots and lots of duplicate contacts, and some of the information in the duplicated contacts doesn't match. Can I combine them?

**A** Yes. Open Address Book and choose Card ▶ Look For Duplicates. Address Book will do exactly that and eventually produce a sheet that details the number of duplicate cards and duplicated entries. Click Merge, and the information from cards deemed duplicates will be merged into a single card. You'll also see an option allowing you to merge cards that have the same name but contain different information. Unless you know an awful lot of John Smiths and Mary Joneses, go right ahead and enable that option. Those contacts will also be merged.

## TRANSFERRING CONTACTS

**Q** I need to transfer my contacts to another Mac and to my Windows PC at work. How do I do that?

**A** Transferring contacts to another Mac is easy: In Address Book, choose File ▶ Export ▶ Address Book Archive. Copy the resulting archive to the other Mac, launch Address Book on that Mac, and choose File ▶ Import. Find the archive and click Open.

Transferring contacts to a Windows PC is trickier: You must export your contacts in vCard format. But if you choose File ▶ Export ▶ Export vCard in Address Book, all of your contacts will be exported to a single vCard, which many Windows apps can't read; you need to export each one to an individual vCard.

To do that, create a folder on the desktop for your exported contacts, select those contacts in Address Book, and, while holding down the Option key, drag the contacts to the folder you created. They will export as individual files, ready to be transferred to your PC.

## iCAL

### SYNCING GOOGLE AND iCAL CALENDARS

**Q** How can I sync iCal with my Google calendars?

**A** Launch iCal, choose iCal ▶ Preferences, and click the Accounts tab in the resulting window. Click the plus-sign (+) button at the bottom of the window. In the Add An Account sheet, choose Google from the Account Type pop-up menu, enter your Gmail address and password in the appropriate fields, and click the Create button. iCal verifies the account and adds it to iCal. In iCal's list of calendars, you'll see a new calendar group called *yourgmailname@gmail.com* containing one calendar. To add other calendars associated with your Gmail account, click the Delegation tab in the Accounts window and enable the calendars you'd like to view and edit in iCal (see "Choosing Delegates").





# SCOSCHE

## enjoy the landscape



Leather Texture  
IPD2FLW - White  
IPD2FLBK - Black



Carbon Fiber Texture  
IPD2CFW - White  
IPD2CFBK - Black



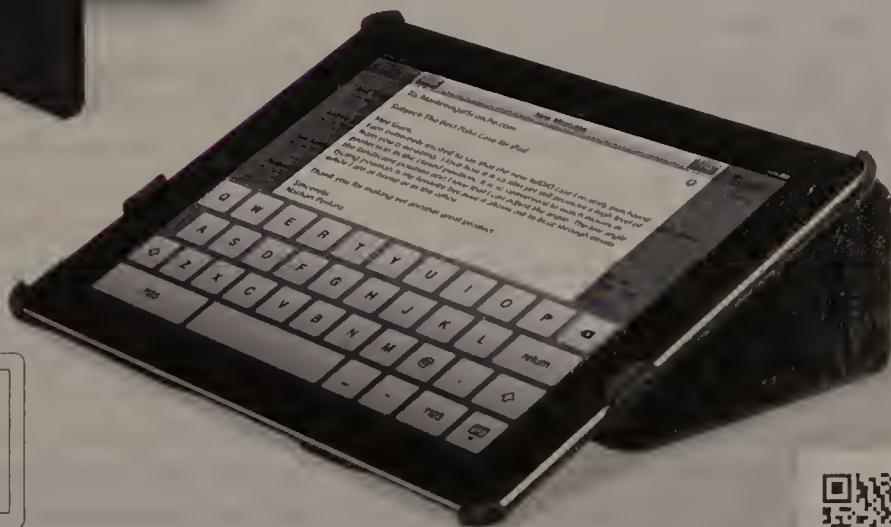
### foldIO™ P2

Folio Case for iPad 2 with  
Multiple Viewing Angles

- Folio style protects the screen while on the go
- Suede interior lining for enhanced protection
- Extremely low profile design
- Multiple viewing angles for landscape media viewing, facetime calling and low angle typing



iPad 2  
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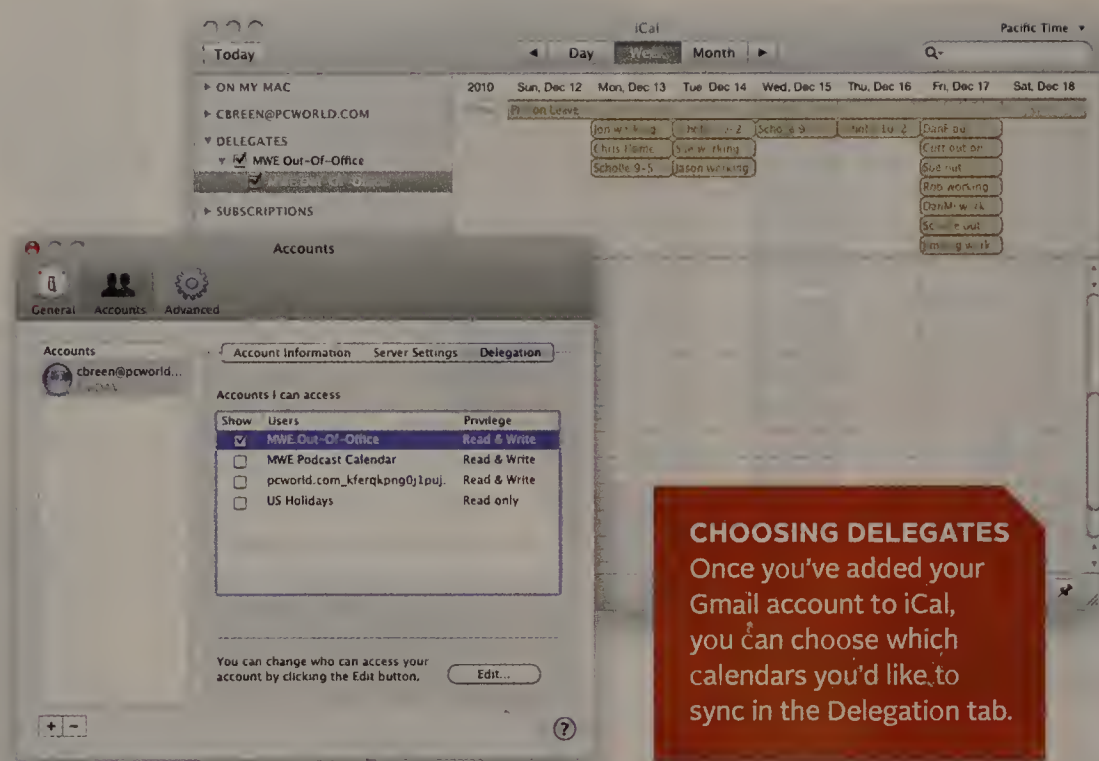
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### CHOOSING DELEGATES

Once you've added your Gmail account to iCal, you can choose which calendars you'd like to sync in the Delegation tab.

## THE TIME ZONE TRICK

**Q** I'm confused about creating iCal events so they appear at the correct local time when I travel. What's the secret?

**A** Open iCal's preferences, select the Advanced tab, and enable Turn On Time Zone Support. The time zone for your current location will appear in the top right corner of the iCal window.

Now create an event for when you'll be traveling. Let's say you live in Maine and need to schedule a 10 a.m. meeting for when you're in California. Create the event at home in Maine, enter 10 a.m. as the start time, and, from the event's Time Zone pop-up menu, choose Pacific Time. (If you don't see Pacific Time, choose Other and select it on the map.) On your calendar—which now displays Eastern Time—the event will appear at 1 p.m. (or 10 a.m. Pacific Time).

When you reach California, iCal should display Pacific Time. (If it doesn't, choose it from the pop-up menu at the top of the window.) The event should appear at 10 a.m., where it belongs. To create an event that doesn't shift based on time zone—it occurs at 10 a.m. regardless of where your Mac thinks it is—choose Floating from the event's Time Zone pop-up menu.

## MAIL

### ELIMINATING EXTRA AUTOCOMplete ENTRIES

**Q** Whenever I create a new message in Mail and enter the first few letters of the addressee, I see a list of old contacts I no longer use. How do I trim this list?

**A** First, choose Window ► Previous Recipients and, in the Previous Recipients window, select all the entries and click Remove From List. You can purge this list more thoroughly by quitting Mail, navigating to *youruserfolder/Library/Application Support/Address-Book*, and tossing out the MailRecents-v4.abcdmr file. When you relaunch Mail, the Previous Recipients window should be clear; you should get fewer autocompleted entries when you address your next e-mail message.

As for old contacts that appear because they're in your Address Book, the only way to remove them is to launch Address Book and weed them out, one by one.

## TUNING MAIL'S JUNK MAIL SETTINGS

**Q** My junk filter in Mail isn't working well; I keep getting spam, even when I mark a message as junk. What am I doing wrong?

**A** If you've studiously taught Mail what is and isn't junk but it's not learning, reset Mail's junk-mail settings by opening Mail's Preferences, clicking the Junk Mail tab, and then clicking the Reset button.

To begin anew, in this same Junk Mail window select the Enable Junk Mail Filtering option. As you're just starting out, enable the Mark As Junk Mail But Leave It In My Inbox option. With this option on, messages that Mail believes are junk will be marked in brown. By leaving them in your inbox, you can first see if the junk mail filter is working and then identify mail marked as junk.

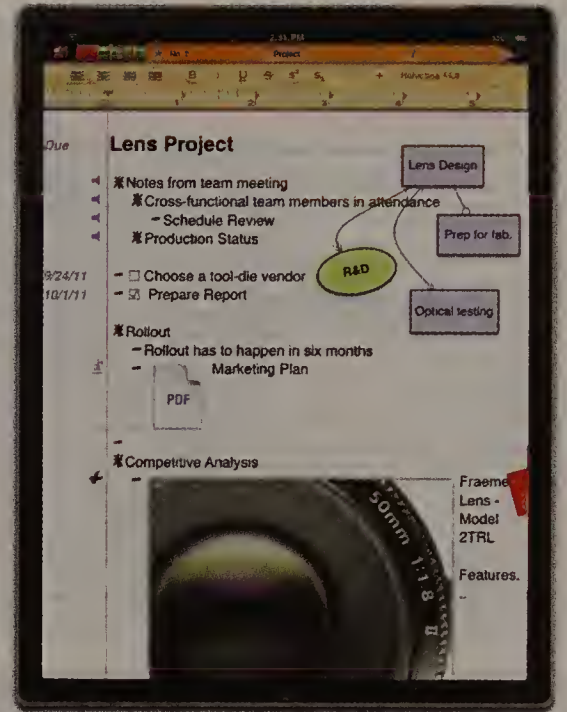
Scan your inbox and verify that what Mail is calling junk really is junk. If it isn't, highlight the good messages and click the Not Junk button in Mail's toolbar. Look for messages that are junk but haven't been marked as such; if you find one, highlight it and click the Junk button in Mail's toolbar. Over time, Mail will "learn" to better pinpoint junk messages.

Once it's learned to identify junk mail to your satisfaction, go back to the Junk Mail preferences tab and enable the Move It To The Junk Mailbox option. Mail will then automatically move mail it has identified as junk to a Junk folder (under On My Mac in the Mailboxes pane).

If you have a severe junk-mail problem that Mail can't deal with, get C-Command Software's \$30 SpamSieve ([c-command.com/spamsieve](http://c-command.com/spamsieve))—the most effective spam-filtering tool I've ever used.

Bonus tip: You can transfer Mail's junk-mail filter to another Mac, so you don't have to retrain Mail on a new Mac. Locate LSMMMap2 in *youruserfolder/Library/Mail*, and transfer it to the same location on the other Mac (replacing that Mac's copy). Mail's filtering on that other Mac will then be just as effective as it is on the first.

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## iLIFE

LIBRARIES, TRASH, AND CRASHES



➔ Apple packs each new Mac with a terrific multimedia suite—iLife. But while iPhoto, iMovie, and GarageBand are generally solid performers, their behavior can sometimes be confounding. Here are a few things you can try when they give you trouble.

## iPHOTO

### CORRUPT iPHOTO LIBRARY

**Q** I can't seem to open my iPhoto library. Have I lost all my pictures?

**A** That's doubtful. It's more likely that your iPhoto library needs rebuilding. You can do that by holding down ⌘-Option while launching iPhoto. A Rebuild Photo Library window will appear that offers multiple repair options. Select the first option—Repair The iPhoto Library Database—and click the Rebuild button. iPhoto will set about repairing and rebuilding your library.

### NOT REALLY TRASHED

**Q** I deleted several images in iPhoto by mistake and I want them back. But I don't have a backup. Is there another way to retrieve them?

**A** When you select images and press the Delete key in iPhoto, they're moved to iPhoto's trash, not OS X's Trash. And they stay there until you Control-click on the iPhoto Trash icon and choose Empty Trash. To recover your pictures, just click on that Trash icon and drag the images you want to the Photos entry in the Library list.

The downside of this scheme is that you may be storing several gigabytes' worth of pictures you thought you'd deleted. Choosing Empty Trash takes care of that.

### SPLITTING iPHOTO LIBRARIES

**Q** My iPhoto library is huge, and I'd like to split it so I can store nonessential photos on an external hard drive while keeping my favorite pictures on my Mac's startup drive. How do I do this?

**A** This is best left to a third-party utility, specifically Fat Cat Software's \$20 iPhoto Library Manager ([www.fatcatsoftware.com/iplm](http://www.fatcatsoftware.com/iplm)). To use it, create a new album in iPhoto, call it something intuitive like 'My Favorite Pix,' and move into it the pictures you want to keep on your Mac's internal drive. Launch iPhoto Library Manager and click the New Library button to create a new library—call it 'Keepers,' for example, and save it to the Photos folder inside your user folder.

Select the library you're currently using from the iPhoto Libraries list and locate the My Favorite Pix album. It will appear in the list of albums for that library (see "Splitting the Difference"). Drag that album to the Keepers library you just created. iPhoto Library Manager will copy the images to the new library along with their tags, keywords, and metadata (including Faces and Places information). The Keepers library is now the one iPhoto will open when it launches. Copy your original iPhoto Library (within *youruserfolder/Photos*) to the external hard drive.

Before deleting the copy of the original iPhoto library that's still on your internal hard drive, relaunch iPhoto while holding down the Option key. iPhoto will prompt you to choose the photo library you want to use. Click the Other Library button, navigate to the library that you just copied to the external drive, and click Choose. iPhoto should open that library and display all of your pictures. When you're sure they're all there, feel free to delete the original library from your internal hard drive, knowing that this library is now safely backed up. Finally, hold down the Option key, relaunch iPhoto, and choose your Keepers library. It will become the default.





## iMOVIE

### iMOVIE AND PLUG-INS

**Q** I can't seem to launch iMovie '11 without it stalling.

**A** A good general rule of thumb is that if any application that requires QuickTime acts up (this includes iMovie, Final Cut Pro, and iTunes), take a look at the /Library/QuickTime folder. Within it you will find a load of component files—plug-ins that enhance QuickTime in wondrous ways. Such plug-ins include DivX, Flip4Mac, and Perian. If one of the component files is outdated or incompatible, it can wreak this kind of havoc.

If one of these problems confronts you, quit the victimized application and move any third-party components from within this folder (shift them to the desktop for now). Restart the affected application. If it works correctly, you know one of the components is the problem. To begin troubleshooting, visit the host Website of each component and download a fresh version. If an uninstaller is included, run it to clear out the bits and pieces of each component that you haven't found. Quit the troublesome application and install one component. Run the application and see how it performs. If it runs well, run the next installer. If it runs poorly, that component is the troublemaker, and you should live without it or find an alternative.

### THE RETURN OF THE TIMELINE

**Q** I loved iMovie HD's ability to edit video in a timeline. Can I do that in iMovie '11?

**A** In the Project pane, click the Show Project Clips As Single Row button. That'll give you something resembling a timeline. To give yourself a little more elbow room, choose Window ► Swap Events And Projects. This moves the Project pane to the bottom of the iMovie window, which affords you more room than you have when that pane is at the top of the window.

### KILLING KEN

**Q** I don't like iMovie's Ken Burns effect. How do I keep iMovie from applying it to every still picture I import?

**A** There isn't a Stop Ken Burns option in iMovie's preferences. But you can turn Ken off for specific projects: Create a new project and then immediately choose File ► Project Properties. In the resulting sheet, locate the Initial Photo Placement pop-up menu, choose Fit In Frame, and click the OK button. Any still images you import into that project will be displayed completely and without movement. Note that you'll have to choose this Fit In Frame option every time you start a new project; otherwise the project defaults to the Ken Burns effect.

## WHEN TO THROW IN THE TOWEL

You've tried everything you can, but still the problem persists. It's time to either call in the cavalry or visit the electronic recycler. How do you know when you've reached that point?

**The Solution Is beyond Your Ken** Some jobs are beyond your abilities or tools. For example, when the words *soldering iron* are invoked, it's time for many of us to seek higher powers.

**There's a Bad Smell** Does your Mac smell like burned plastic, particularly after a nasty power surge? Unplug it and don't attempt to boot it. If you know how, extract its hard drive and attach it to another Mac to see if your data is still intact. As for the Mac, go to the repair shop for an estimate. If it's an older Mac and the estimate is more than half the replacement cost, strongly consider buying a new Mac.

**You Hear Evil Noises** Macs have few moving parts, but those it does have should be nearly silent. If you hear grinding, that's most likely the hard drive; shut it down immediately. If your data isn't backed up, shame on you. To try to recover it, contact an outfit such as DriveSavers ([www.drivesaversdatarecovery.com](http://www.drivesaversdatarecovery.com)). If your Mac's fan runs constantly, that too requires professional attention. If your Mac's media drive won't load discs, it's probably done; you may be able to replace it yourself. Visit iFixit ([www.ifixit.com](http://www.ifixit.com)) for instructions.

**There's No Sound, No Vision, No Nothing** You know the Mac is getting power (because you've checked the outlet and you've tried a different power adapter and/or cable). You've followed every instruction you can find for reviving a dead Mac, but it sits there in pouty silence. Someone else might be able to resuscitate it, but not you. Take it in for repair.



# BEYOND CABLE

Three ways to connect your HDTV to your Mac and the Net

**BY CHRISTOPHER BREEN**  
**PHOTOGRAPHY BY PETER BELANGER**

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**The ubiquitous television set has grown up over the decades.**

No longer reliant on an antenna picking up a scant few local stations, modern TVs receive programming by the bucket load via cable and satellite connections. But what if you want content that Comcast or DirecTV doesn't offer?

Today, you'll find a ton of streaming audio, video, and photo content—from Internet sources such as Netflix, Pandora, YouTube, Flickr, and more—that you can't get from cable or satellite. And with the help of the right device, you can further expand the boundaries of what your traditional TV can show you.

We've selected three such devices that illustrate just how far you can take your TV: Apple's \$99 Apple TV (★★★★; [macworld.com/6635](http://macworld.com/6635)), Roku's \$100 XDS Streaming Player (★★★★; [macworld.com/6748](http://macworld.com/6748)), and Apple's \$699 Mac mini (★★★★; [macworld.com/6304](http://macworld.com/6304)). Each has its particular strengths and weaknesses (even if none provides the perfect media solution). So grab the popcorn from the microwave, find a cozy spot on the couch, and let's see how they shake out.







# APPLE TV

**T**he Apple TV is the second version of the company's set-top multimedia box for streaming content from your iTunes library and a few Internet sources to an attached TV. The first version contained a hard drive, which allowed you to store media on the device—either media synced from your iTunes library or content downloaded from the iTunes Store. Today's Apple TV is a smaller, more responsive device that can only stream content.

It offers an HDMI video connection as well as an optical digital audio output. It can play video at resolutions up to 1280

802.11n wireless networking, it also bears a 10/100BaseT ethernet port for wired networking. This Apple TV also supports Apple's AirPlay media-streaming scheme, which lets you stream music or videos to the Apple TV from a compatible computer or iOS device.

## Setup and Control

Setting up an Apple TV is a snap. If you have a wireless network in your home, the Apple TV will attempt to identify it. Select your wireless network from the list of available networks and, if necessary, enter the network password. If you use a

Computers and select Turn On Home Sharing. Again, you'll be prompted for your Apple ID and password. Connected Macs will appear under the Computers heading on the Apple TV's main screen.

To enable photo streaming to the Apple TV, select Advanced ► Choose Photos To Share. In the resulting Photo Sharing Preferences window, enable the Share Photos From option; select your iPhoto or Aperture library, a folder of your choosing, or the Pictures folder; and enable the Include Videos option if you want to also stream videos. Click the Apply button at the bottom of the window.

## You can now access MLB.TV and NBA League Pass sports subscriptions on the Apple TV.

by 720 pixels (720p) and will output Dolby Digital 5.1 surround-sound audio. It supports H.264 and MPEG-4 video; AAC, MP3, AIFF, WAV, and Apple Lossless audio; and JPEG, GIF, and TIFF still images. Like iPods, iOS devices, and authorized computers, it can play iTunes-protected content. Capable of

wired ethernet connection, the Apple TV will join the network via DHCP. To play content from an iTunes library, launch iTunes, choose Advanced ► Turn On Home Sharing, and enter your Apple ID and password (repeat as needed for other iTunes libraries on your local network). On the Apple TV, choose Settings ►

If you'd like to stream music and video to your Apple TV via AirPlay, move to the AirPlay command under the Settings menu on the Apple TV and switch on the AirPlay option. If you like, you can also create an AirPlay password in this screen. On an iOS device, just launch an AirPlay-compatible app, tap

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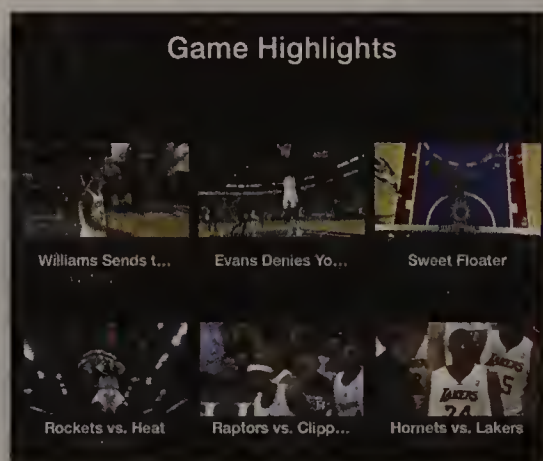


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**Live Sports** The Apple TV now supports streaming sport subscriptions for MLB and NBA fans.

the AirPlay icon (which looks like a rectangle with a triangle pointing up into it), and choose your Apple TV as the destination. On Macs or PCs running iTunes 10, you'll see an AirPlay icon if there's an AirPlay-compatible device on the local network. Click it to choose when to send your output. The music or video will then stream to the Apple TV.

The Apple TV includes Apple's latest \$19 Apple Remote. With it you can easily move through the Apple TV's menus and pause and play videos, audio, and slideshows. You can also control the Apple TV via Apple's free Remote app (📱📱📱; [macworld.com/5029](http://macworld.com/5029)), which works with the iPhone, iPod touch, and iPad. The Remote app is even easier to use. Not only does it present your media in a tappable form, but you can use its search field and keyboard to locate exactly the media you want to play. Although the Apple TV has its own on-screen search field, you must input characters one by one, by clicking the virtual keyboard and using the remote, which can be slow going. Regrettably you can use the Remote app only with media in an iTunes library—not with Internet-based content.

#### Content

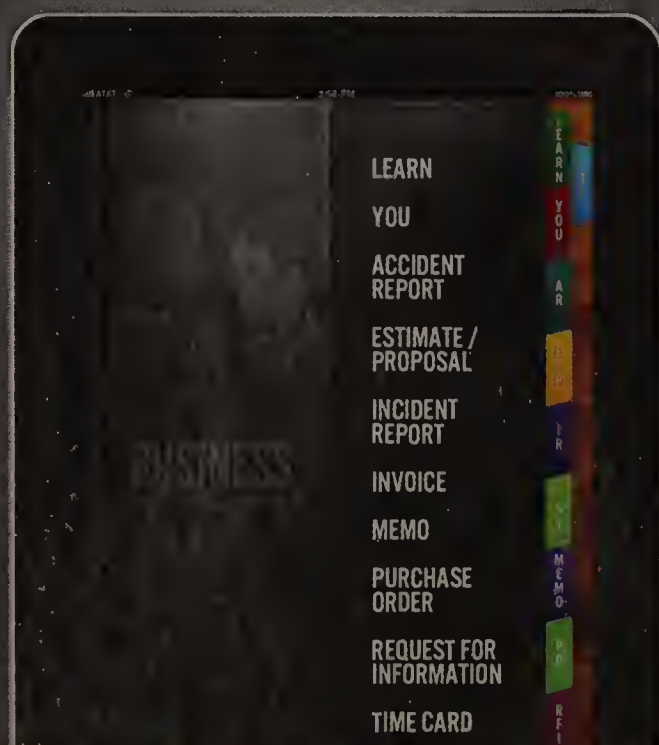
As mentioned, the Apple TV lets you stream the contents of your iTunes

library, but it also reaches out to the outside world. As with the Apple TV of the past, today's Apple TV allows you to access YouTube videos, Internet radio stations, podcasts, and pictures and videos from MobileMe Galleries and Flickr accounts (your own and those of your contacts). The second-generation Apple TV both expands and contracts the original's capabilities. If you have a Netflix account, you can use your Apple TV to stream Netflix content to the device. Netflix allows you to link your account to as many as six devices.

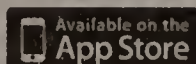
And the 4.2 software update for the Apple TV lets you access MLB.TV and NBA League Pass sports subscriptions as well (see "Apple TV Gains MLB, NBA Streaming," Playlist, page 69).

What you lose with the new Apple TV is purchasing power. With the first Apple TV you could purchase music and videos from the iTunes Store directly from the device. This is no longer possible,

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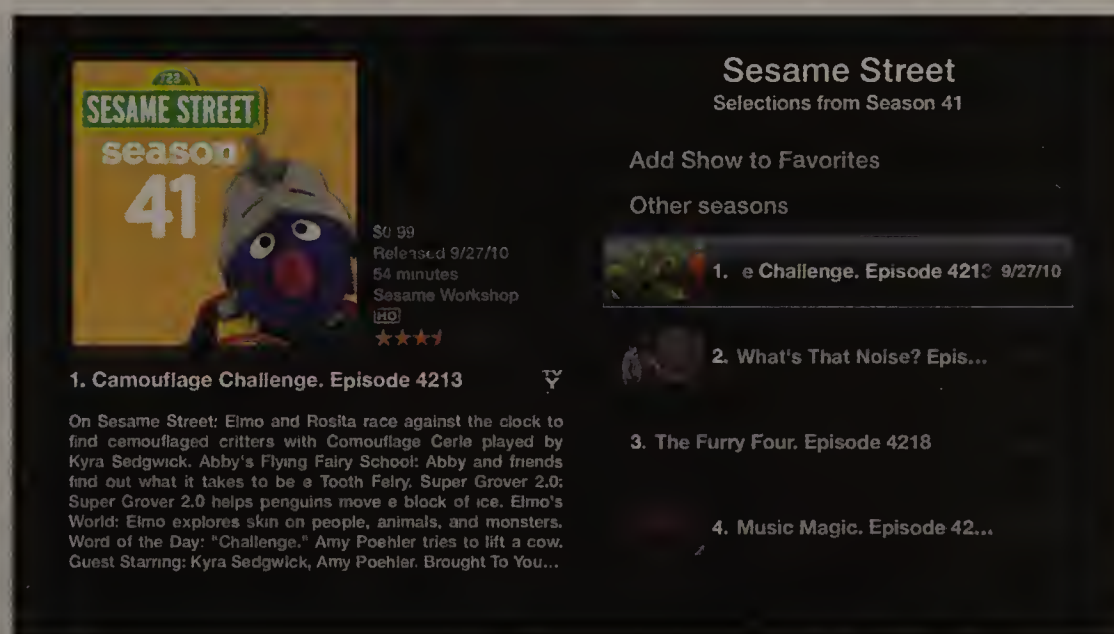
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because the Apple TV—which lacks a hard drive—has nowhere to store this content. Instead you can only rent movies and TV shows, which are streamed to the device over the Internet. If you want to purchase iTunes Store content, you must do so with your computer or iOS device, and then stream it to the Apple TV.

TV show rentals cost \$1 per episode, and most recent TV shows are offered in HD at no additional cost. You can rent recently released movies in HD for \$5, whereas older HD titles cost \$4 to rent. Older titles in standard-definition format cost \$3 to rent. As with TV shows, you have 30 days to start watching rented movies, but you have only 24 hours from the time you start watching a movie to complete it (versus 48 hours for TV shows).

**Best For** The Apple TV is a good match for people with HDMI-equipped audio/video systems who want to enjoy their iTunes content, people who otherwise lack a Netflix device, individu-



**TV Show Rentals** With the latest Apple TV, you can rent TV shows for just \$1 an episode, often in HD, to watch instantly on your high-definition television.

als who want to rent movies and TV shows from the iTunes Store, and iOS device owners who want to stream music and videos from their late-model iPhone, iPod touch, or iPad.

**Not Ideal For** If you want a set-top box that lets you access a lot of Internet media (Hulu and Pandora, say), or you're a video purist who demands 1080p content, you'll be disappointed with the Apple TV.

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# ROKU PLAYERS

Roku

Roku XD|S

**R**oku's \$100 XDS is emblematic of a lot of today's set-top media players. Like D-Link's Boxee Box (★★★★½; [macworld.com/6859](http://macworld.com/6859)), Logitech's Revue (★★★★; [macworld.com/6747](http://macworld.com/6747)), and Western Digital's WD TV Live Plus (★★★★; [macworld.com/6313](http://macworld.com/6313)), the XDS streams video and audio from the Internet and (with some work) from local sources to an attached AV system. We picked the XDS because of its price and flexibility.

optical digital audio), and sports a USB port for playing music, videos, and photos stored on an attached external drive.

It also supports 1080p HD video. This sounds attractive, but most Internet HD video is encoded at 720p. Pushing out true 1080p video requires a lot of bandwidth, so while the player may be capable of playing such content, you may have a hard time finding it unless you're streaming it from a local network source.

device, you have access to the player's content, which is offered in channels.

By default, the player's home screen offers links to the Channel Store, Netflix, Amazon Instant Video, and Hulu Plus. To add one of these services, you have to log on to the service's Website with your computer, create an account if you don't already have one, and register your player by supplying a registration code displayed on your TV screen.

## By default, Roku players aren't configured to play audio and video files from your Mac.

The XDS is Roku's top-of-the-line streaming player. Like other Roku players, it streams video from the Internet, supports both wireless and wired network connections, and includes an HDMI port for connecting the player to your TV. It offers 802.11n wireless networking, includes dual-band wireless technology (for better-quality video), offers composite- and component-video output (as well as

### Setup and Control

Setting up a Roku player is only slightly more onerous than configuring an Apple TV. When you first connect it to your AV system you'll be presented with a linking code. You use this code to register your player on Roku's Website and create a free Roku account (though you will be charged for adding some premium channels). Once you've registered your

To add additional channels, simply select the Channel Store and browse through the collection of offered channels. Many are free, but there are some premium channels you must purchase. Those premium-channel purchases are charged through your Roku account.

All Roku players include the Roku remote, a candy-bar-size remote that includes controls for navigating the



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**Roku Music** The Roku players support a number of music services, such as the Mog subscription-based service.

player's menus. In addition to the four-direction keypad featuring OK, Options, Home, Back, Play/Pause, and reverse- and forward-scan buttons, it carries an Instant Replay button for skipping back a few seconds.

### Content

The Roku XDS is far more Internet-friendly than the Apple TV. It, too, supports Netflix, MLB.TV, and NBA League Pass streaming, but can also access a load of other Internet content

(often on a pay basis) including TV shows and movies from Hulu Plus; live hockey games from NHL GameCenter Live; streaming music from Mog, Pandora, and Shoutcast; video from Vimeo; photos from Flickr and Picasa; and much more. You add these channels through the device's Channel Store. You can additionally add private channels—that is, channels not offered specifically through the Channel Store. To add a private channel you must know its code (you can find a listing of some channels on the unaffiliated Roku Channel Database [[www.roku-channels.com](http://www.roku-channels.com)]). Once you have that code, go to Roku's Add Channel page and enter it.

A recently implemented feature also lets you connect an external USB storage device to the player and play the content on that drive via the Media Player channel. This channel supports H.264 and MPEG-4 video, AAC and MP3 audio, and JPEG and PNG photos. The USB Media Player channel does not support

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playlists, so if you want to more easily navigate to music stored on a drive, group the music you want to play into folders and select the folder of music you want to hear. Using this arrangement, you can play the entire contents of a folder you view through the Media Player channel.

By default, Roku players aren't configured to play local media—the audio and video files you store on your Mac. The add-on Roksbox ([roksbox.com](http://roksbox.com)) channel provides a way to stream video and audio from a computer on your local network, but setup is clumsy, requiring that you set up a server on your Mac by using OS X's built-in sharing tools. Alternatively, you can access a portion or all of your iTunes music collection by uploading it to the MP3tunes ([www.mp3tunes.com](http://www.mp3tunes.com)) Web service. A free account includes 2GB of online music storage, but you must listen to the occasional ad; 50GB, 100GB, and 200GB plans cost \$40, \$74, and \$140 a year, respectively. As neither of these

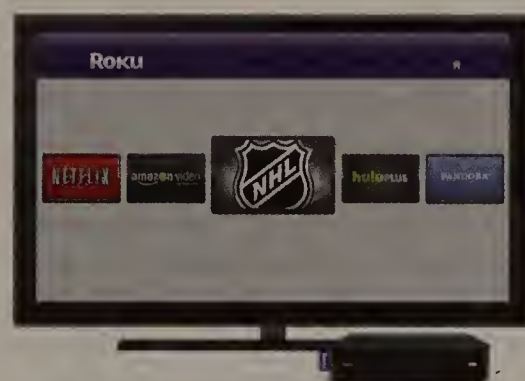
solutions is ideal, the ability to play media from an attached USB drive is all the more attractive.

Although the Roku player doesn't allow you to purchase or rent content from the iTunes Store—no non-Apple devices do—the player does support Amazon Instant Video ([www.amazon.com/instantvideo](http://www.amazon.com/instantvideo)). Movie rentals from the service are \$5 for recent HD titles (older titles are generally \$4, though you can find some movies for \$3). Standard-definition titles are \$4 for new titles and \$3 for older titles (some titles are available for \$2). You can purchase new movies in standard definition for \$15—older titles normally go for \$10 to \$13. You can rent HD TV episodes for \$1 each and purchase episodes for \$2. Unlike with iTunes Store purchases, you don't download the movie to your computer. Rather, Amazon keeps a record of what you've purchased and makes it available to you for streaming

whenever you want to watch it.

**Best For** Anyone looking to easily browse and play Internet media and media stored on an attached hard drive, as well as Hulu Plus, MOG, and Pandora users will like the Roku XDS.

**Not Ideal For** People hoping to easily stream content from their computers or those wishing to have access to the iTunes Store from their set-top box won't find what they're looking for in the XDS.



**Channels** You won't find Amazon, Hulu Plus, or NHL games on the Apple TV.



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# MAC MINI

**M**ore than any earlier incarnation of the product, the latest version of Apple's diminutive Mac mini is tailor-made for the living room, thanks in large part to the HDMI port built right into it. Capable of transmitting both video and multichannel audio, and with support for resolutions of up to 1080p, this port makes adding a Mac mini to your AV system tempting.

In addition to the HDMI port, the \$699 Mac mini includes a 2.4GHz Intel Core 2 Duo processor, 2GB of RAM, a

320GB 5400-rpm hard drive, an 8X SuperDrive, Nvidia GeForce 320M graphics, four USB 2.0 ports, a FireWire 800 port, an SD card slot, a Mini DisplayPort connector, gigabit ethernet, and an audio input port and a headphone/audio output port (both supporting analog and digital audio). As with all Macs, the mini doesn't support Blu-ray disc playback (although you can buy an external Blu-ray drive and use it to rip your purchased movies for playback, as well as to burn data and media to Blu-ray

discs, by using a tool such as Roxio's \$100 Toast Titanium [[www.roxio.com](http://www.roxio.com)]).

Sleek and capable though the Mac mini is, it could use some improvement. For instance, the 5400-rpm hard drive that comes with it is both on the slow side and, for people who want to cram a lot of large media files onto their Macs, a little cramped. Fortunately, you can alleviate both issues by purchasing a faster and more capacious external hard drive. You can pick up a 1TB FireWire 800 drive for around \$120.

## Cut the Cable

Can you ditch your TV subscription altogether?

Some people would like to cut off their cable or satellite service altogether. But can a device like the Roku or Apple TV really replace the cord? Here's how those other boxes stack up to TV.

### Live TV

With a television, you get to watch news, sports, and other programming as it's broadcast. On a TV, if it's on, you can watch it.

With a media streamer or a computer, doing so isn't as simple. True, you can rent or buy a wide variety of TV shows via the iTunes Store or Amazon Instant Video. Plus, services like Hulu and the TV networks' Websites let you watch for free (with commercials). But

those programs aren't available to watch or download until the day after they air. So even though you *can* access lots of shows in other ways, you can't do so immediately.

News is a different story. If you like to watch the evening news or a local broadcast, you're pretty much out of luck with one of these other devices. But if your main concern is just keeping up with the news, you have some options. The Roku Newscaster channel provides coverage, and there are private channels for CNN and BBC. And of course with a Mac mini, you can access any news Website.

Then there are big events, like the Oscars, political conventions, and so on.



You may be able to find a live stream of some events online or via a Roku channel, but definitely not on the Apple TV.

### Advantage: TV

### Sports

One reason people give for not being able to cut the cable is sports. The ability to



Similarly, the RAM allotment is a little skimpy. The default 2GB of installed RAM allows you to run many applications simultaneously on the mini, but you'll find it a more responsive computer if you install additional RAM. While you can order the mini with more memory, you can do the job far less expensively by purchasing compatible RAM elsewhere and installing it yourself. As we go to press, an 8GB upgrade costs just under \$100. Apple charges \$200 to configure the mini with 8GB of RAM. Upgrading RAM on the latest mini is far easier than it was with earlier models. Rather than having to pry open the computer with a pair of putty knives, all you need to do is flip it over, twist off a disc on the bottom of the mini, pop in a new RAM chip or two, and reassemble.

### Setup and Control

Getting a lot of content via a Mac mini is no problem. As a Mac, it has access to anything you can load onto it or find on

the Internet—Websites, streaming services, you name it. The knock against the Mac mini as media server is that, while it's extremely flexible, operating it can be complicated for people who aren't familiar with computers (some family members, for example). Apple provides a solution for managing local and networked media with its Front Row media player, which anyone can easily operate via Apple's Remote Control or a wired or wireless keyboard; but Front Row is no help for handling Internet media.

Using a Web browser such as Safari or Firefox for managing some media—YouTube and many streaming services, for example—is fine, but doing so means that you have to hop between different Websites and noodle with settings to allow the content to play full screen. Several media player applications such as Boxee ([www.boxee.tv](http://www.boxee.tv)), Plex ([www.plexapp.com](http://www.plexapp.com)), and XBMC ([xbmc.org](http://xbmc.org)) can provide access to both local and Internet media, although setting up and operating

them isn't a slam dunk (particularly setting them up to play media on your network). Also, media outlets such as Hulu that don't care to have their content accessed through these applications means playing the occasional cat-and-mouse game to get them to work—either by using a dedicated app or by visiting the sites via a Web browser.

And then there's the question of control. Apple's hardware remote can navigate Front Row and work with Apple's media applications and the media browsers previously mentioned, but it's not useful for marching around the Mac's interface. There are iOS apps that let you control applications like Boxee, Plex, XMBC, VLC media player, and others, but if you want full access to the Mac from the couch, a Bluetooth keyboard and trackpad or mouse is your best solution. And while those devices are certainly capable controllers, using them makes it even more clear that you're using a computer rather than an easy-to-operate media center.

watch games on a big-screen HDTV is often the reason people *have* an HDTV. If you're a baseball fan, for example, you could pay to access MLB.TV live broadcasts on the Apple TV, the Roku, or a computer; but due to blackout restrictions, you wouldn't even be able to watch your home team play. The same goes with lots of other sports.

### Advantage: TV

### Premium Channels

If you're a fan of the TV series that air on premium channels (Showtime, HBO, and so on), you might think you'd be able to rent or buy episodes the same way you do with network broadcasts. And you'd be wrong. Search the iTunes Store for shows like *Weeds*, *Dexter*, or *Big Love*, and you won't find recently aired episodes or recently completed seasons. Often, episodes aren't available to watch until they're for sale on DVD, months after the season ends.

### Advantage: TV

### On-Demand Movies

Between the iTunes Store and Netflix, the Apple TV provides a pretty solid way to watch movies on demand. And while Roku loses out on iTunes Store content, it makes up for it with Amazon's Instant Video. But most cable and satellite subscribers now have access to pay-per-view and on-demand movies from their cable or satellite boxes or DVRs. And with viewing rules pretty standard across the board and selection almost identical, all roads lead to the same place.

### Advantage: Tie

### Web Content

Media-streaming devices are all about Internet content, and as such it's hard to beat them. But there are other options that might be right in front of you already. For example, the TiVo Premiere DVRs (★★★★; [macworld.com/6069](http://macworld.com/6069)) offer access to many online services, such as Netflix, YouTube, Amazon Instant Video, Blockbuster on Demand, Pandora, and Rhapsody. And

DirecTV has TV Apps for weather, sports scores, Flickr photos, and live Webcam views, and it recently added the ability to use your HD DVR ([macworld.com/7091](http://macworld.com/7091)) to search for and watch YouTube videos.

### Advantage: Other Devices

Although some people may be able to dump their cable or satellite subscriptions, the reality is that—for most people—the time has yet to come when cutting the cable completely is feasible.—JONATHAN SEFF

### Looking for a New HDTV?

Check out our reviews of the latest HDTV models at [macworld.com/7092](http://macworld.com/7092).





## Content

What kinds of media can you access with the Mac mini? Virtually *everything*. With iTunes built in, the Mac mini provides access to your iTunes library, Internet radio, and all the audio and video content available at the iTunes Store, including music, music videos, podcasts, movies, TV shows, and iTunes U content. You can play CDs and DVDs thanks to the mini's SuperDrive. With a Web browser and a variety of applications, you can play just about any media available on the Internet, including Netflix, Hulu and Hulu Plus, YouTube, Vimeo, Pandora, Rhapsody, Napster, Mog, Rdio. And if you're willing to spend a little extra, you can purchase the necessary items for playing and capturing over-the-air HDTV broadcasts (such as Elgato's \$100 EyeTV One [[www.elgato.com](http://www.elgato.com)] or \$150 EyeTV Hybrid [[macworld.com/6191](http://macworld.com/6191)]) and radio broadcasts. If your media consumption dates back to the predigital era and you have cupboards crammed with VHS tapes, audiocassette tapes, vinyl LPs—even 8-track tapes, if you can find a working player—there are a number of options for capturing and converting that media including BIAS's \$50 SoundSaver ([macworld.com/6863](http://macworld.com/6863)), Elgato's \$100 Video Capture ([macworld.com/7093](http://macworld.com/7093)), and Roxio's \$80 Easy VHS to DVD ([macworld.com/7094](http://macworld.com/7094)).



**Playing Music** Front Row offers a (slightly) more user-friendly view of your media.

**Best For** Technically savvy people who want access to as much media as a computer and the Internet can provide will want to go with a Mac mini.

**Not Ideal For** Users who want a simple system that plays local, networked, and Internet media with the touch of a couple of buttons should look to the Apple TV or the Roku XDS.

## The Last Word

The HDTV has become the center of our digital-media consumption, and for good reason—it's much nicer to sit back on the couch and watch content on a 46-inch

widescreen TV than to crowd family and friends around an iPad, computer monitor, or laptop display—even when the computer monitor belongs to a 27-inch iMac or 17-inch MacBook Pro. And thanks to devices like the Apple TV, Roku players, and Mac mini (not to mention the built-in capabilities of many HDTVs, Blu-ray players, DVRs, and on-demand satellite and cable TV receivers), you can now sit in front of your HDTV and soak up more media than ever before.

The Apple TV is great for playing local content, the video rental component of the iTunes Store, Netflix, YouTube, and streaming NBA and MLB content, but it's largely clueless about the rest of the Internet. Devices such as the Roku player definitely have their charms, but you can't count simple access to media on your network or an avenue into the iTunes Store among them. The Mac mini is a terrific media tool that can access just about anything; however, it's more complicated to use and control than a living-room media component should be.

In other words, no device is perfect, nor can it provide access to everything you might want to see. With time, advancements in technology, and—most importantly—agreements among the various media companies, we can hope that we'll have increasingly greater control over the media we view on our TV screens. Now *that's* entertainment.



**Plex** Alternative media player applications such as Plex or Boxee can give you easier access to your (and online) content than Apple's built-in tools.





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# WORKING MAC

Tips, Tricks, and Tools to Make You and Your Mac More Productive

## Fast (and Easy) Ways to Transfer Files

Get your files from here to there with a minimum of fuss

BY KIRK MCELHEARN

If you have two Macs—for instance, a desktop and a laptop—you may often find yourself transferring files from one to the other as you prepare to head off to work or school. You may also need to send files to friends or colleagues, and in some cases file size could make this difficult. Here are nine ways you can transfer files from one Mac to another.

### Try E-mail

The first, and easiest, way to send files is to e-mail them. This will probably work for the majority of files you need to send to others, and can even work for transferring files to another Mac you own. Just add attachments to e-mail messages and send them. If you have an IMAP account, send a file to yourself, and it'll show up in your inbox on both of your Macs. (Not sure what IMAP is? See “Four Reasons to Switch to IMAP” at [macworld.com/7058](http://macworld.com/7058).) Watch out, though; e-mail attachment sizes are usually limited. Many Internet service providers limit them to 10MB, though Apple's MobileMe will accept up to 20MB.

### Use File Sharing

On both of your Macs, open System Preferences, click Sharing, and select File Sharing in the left pane. Open a Finder window on one Mac, and the other Mac should now appear in the Shared section of the Finder sidebar. Click on the computer's name and enter a username and password (if you have accounts on both Macs), or connect as a guest. Now you can put files in the Drop Box folder inside a user's Public folder. There's no size limit, but really big files may take time to copy depending on your network's speed.



### Use a Shared Disk

If you have an AirPort Extreme base station (🔗🔗🔗🔗; [macworld.com/4531](http://macworld.com/4531)), or Apple's Time Capsule (🔗🔗🔗🔗; [macworld.com/4494](http://macworld.com/4494)), you can connect a hard disk to those devices' USB ports. Set up your Extreme or Time Capsule as a shared disk in AirPort Utility (in your /Applications/Utilities folder), and you'll be able to see it in the Shared section of the Finder sidebar. Copy any files you want to that disk—you may want to make folders for different users, if you have several—and others can get the files whenever they want; their computers don't have to be on at the same time, as they do with file sharing.

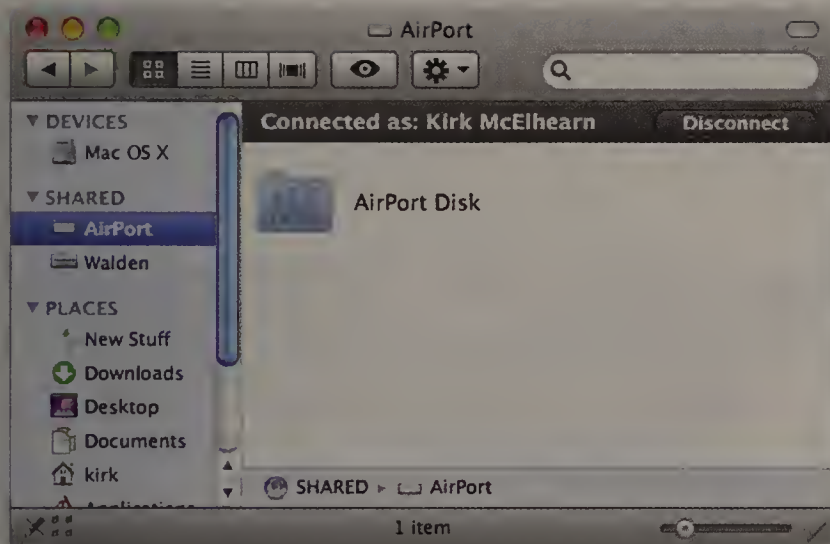
### Use iChat File Transfer

If both Macs have Apple's iChat configured, just find the name of the person in your iChat Buddy List, and drag the file or folder onto the name.

The person must click to accept the transfer; the files will go right to the other Mac in a jiffy. If you want to send a file to someone in your home or office, and the other user or Mac doesn't have an iChat account, make sure that Bonjour is enabled in both Macs' Accounts preferences in iChat. (Apple's Bonjour system detects users on a local network.) Once it's enabled, display a list of available users by choosing Window ▶ Bonjour List, and drag a file onto a user's name.

### Sync with Dropbox

If you often work on two Macs, get a free Dropbox account (🔗🔗🔗🔗; [macworld.com/7059](http://macworld.com/7059)) and sync your Dropbox between those two computers. Put the files you'll need on the road in your Dropbox folder on your desktop Mac, and you'll find them in the Dropbox folder on your laptop. In addition, you



**A Shared Disk** If you have an AirPort Extreme base station or a Time Capsule, you can set it up as a shared disk to make easy file transfers.

can access the same files from the Dropbox Website if you need to.

### Send Files to Others via Dropbox

Dropbox makes easy work of syncing files across your own Macs, but using the service to transfer a file to a friend or colleague is just as easy. Look inside your Dropbox folder and find the Public folder. Put a file in that folder, and then Control-click (or right-click) on it and choose Dropbox ► Copy Public Link. Once the file has synced to the Dropbox server, you can send the link you copied to anyone to let them download a copy of the file.

### Use MobileMe Sharing

If you have a MobileMe account ([www.me.com](http://www.me.com)), you can put files into your iDisk, either from the Finder or via a Web interface. Then, access the iDisk by choosing Finder ► Go ► iDisk.

Choose My iDisk from this menu, if you're accessing your own iDisk on another Mac, or choose Other User's Public Folder, if you're accessing files on another user's iDisk.

Alternatively, you can use the MobileMe Website. Sign in and then add files

or find ones you've already put in your Public folder. Click on a file to select it, and then click on Share File. You can either send an e-mail directly or get a public link to send. MobileMe limits you to 1GB per file, though.

**Bonus Tip** If you don't have MobileMe—or if you need to send a file that exceeds MobileMe's limits—you can use other Web services such as YouSendIt ([www.yousendit.com](http://www.yousendit.com)). A free YouSendIt account lets you share files as large as 100MB. (You can send larger files through a paid account.) You upload the file via the YouSendIt Web interface, and then send e-mail messages with links to recipients, who can download the files whenever they want.

### Burn CDs or DVDs

Do you have a lot of files? Sending them the old-fashioned way might be best. Burn a CD or DVD with the files and mail

them or hand them to the people who need them. In the Finder, choose File ► New Burn Folder. Drag your files into the folder and then click Burn. This way isn't useful for copying files to another Mac you own, but it can be a good way to give a number of people the same files; just burn several copies of the disc.

### Use Sneakernet

When all else fails, or when you have a huge amount of files to transfer, the sneakernet method—using an external hard disk, or a USB thumb drive—may be the best solution. Connect the disk to one Mac, copy the files over to it, and then unmount it and connect it to the other Mac. If you're copying, say, tens of gigabytes of music or video files from one Mac to another, this is probably fastest.

Senior Contributor **Kirk McElhearn** writes about more than just Macs on his blog, Kirkville ([www.mcelhearn.com](http://www.mcelhearn.com)).



**iChat Transfers** Drag a file onto a person's name in your iChat Buddy List to send a file.



## Reader Tips

Macworld readers share their advice

### Zippy Transfer for Multiple Files

The fastest way to transfer files between most Macs that have FireWire 800 ports is to start one of the Macs in Target Disk mode. That computer's hard drive then appears on the other's screen as an external drive. From there, files can be copied from or to this drive like any other. Not only is FireWire 800 faster than

USB, but it also cuts out your having to copy the files twice (once to the external device and then back to the other Mac).

—MADSCI3NCE

*Editor's Note: This is most efficient when you're moving lots of files. To use Target Disk Mode, string a FireWire cable between your computers. Then hold down the T key while booting up the*

*one you want to appear as an external hard drive.*

### Easy Copies over a Local Network

DropCopy ([www.macworld.com/7017](http://www.macworld.com/7017)) is great and makes it supereasy to send files between Macs on the same Bonjour network. It's instantaneous—just drag and drop.

—michelp



# Use Your Mac without a Mouse

Save time with these tips for becoming keyboard-savvy

BY LEX FRIEDMAN

**S**ince your fingers are nearly always on the keyboard, controlling your computer without moving for your mouse can put you into the upper echelon of efficient Mac users.

## Learn Keyboard Shortcuts

Since keyboard shortcuts are the mouse avoider's most obvious tools, you'll want to nail those down first. Learn the basics: ⌘-X, ⌘-C, and ⌘-V for cut, copy, and paste; ⌘-W to close a window; and ⌘-Tab to switch between open applications.

Many ⌘-Tab lovers forget about ⌘-` (backtick). This shortcut moves you from window to window within the current application.

And who among us hasn't ended up with too many windows filled with too many tabs in our favorite Web browser? The ⌘-` shortcut (and its sibling that rotates through open windows in reverse, ⌘-Shift-`) is a great tool for hopping between all those windows.

When you're in those windows, you can switch between your tabs with ⌘-Shift-[ (left bracket) and ⌘-Shift-] (right bracket). These shortcuts all work



in Apple's Safari; your mileage will vary in other browsers.

## Create Your Own Shortcuts

If there's a particular menu command that you use frequently, and it either lacks a corresponding keyboard shortcut or you don't like the shortcut that's assigned to it, you can always assign it your own key combination.

Launch System Preferences, go to the Keyboard preference pane, choose the

Keyboard Shortcuts tab, and then click on Application Shortcuts. Click the plus-sign (+) button, choose the application you want to add a shortcut for, type in the menu command (*exactly* as it appears in the program's menu), and then select the key combination you'd like to use.

## Gain Full Access

While you're in the Keyboard Shortcuts tab, make sure you turn on Full Keyboard Access, which lets you use the Tab key to switch keyboard

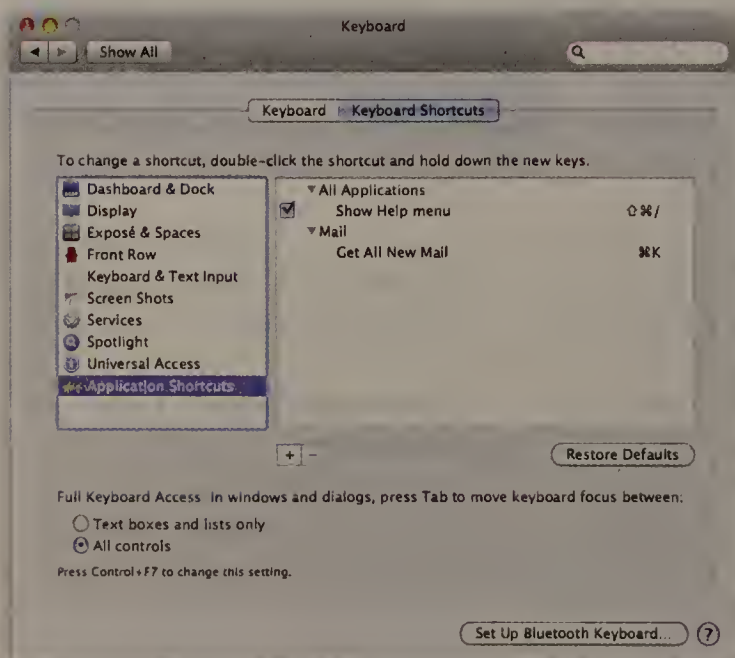
focus among all controls. For example, as you navigate Web pages, forms, and dialog boxes on your Mac, you can use the Tab key to quickly switch between each field, instead of clicking your mouse in one after the other.

Whenever you can use Tab to advance between fields, you can also hold down Shift when you press Tab to advance focus in the opposite direction. Press Escape to close dialog boxes.

Keyboard shortcuts can also replace the mouse when you're editing text. Pressing ⌘-Shift-Left Arrow or ⌘-Shift-Right Arrow selects all text, starting from your cursor, in the selected direction. Option-Shift-Left Arrow or Option-Shift-Right Arrow selects a word at a time.

## Tap Into Keyboard Power

Once you become a true keyboard devotee, you can start leveraging Spotlight, or even more powerful third-party apps like Running with Crayons' free Alfred (👉👉👉👉; [macworld.com/7108](http://macworld.com/7108)) and Objective Development's €24 LaunchBar (👉👉👉👉; [macworld.com/7109](http://macworld.com/7109)), to do more with your keyboard than you ever thought possible, with no mouse involved: launch apps, perform calculations, visit Web pages, and even control iTunes.



**A Shortcut of Your Own** Don't see the shortcut you want? Make your own in the Keyboard Shortcuts tab of OS X's Keyboard preference pane.



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# From PDF to iBooks

Use this Automator workflow to easily move PDFs onto your iPhone or iPad

BY CHRISTOPHER BREEN

If you like to review documents on your way to and from work, you probably know that you can use Apple's free iBooks app to read PDF files on an iOS device running iOS 3.2 or later. With this easy-to-assemble Automator workflow, you can move a PDF directly from Apple's Preview to an attached iPad, iPhone, or iPod touch.

## Set It Up

Launch Snow Leopard's version of Automator (in your /Applications/Utilities folder), and in the template sheet that appears, select Print Plugin and click Choose. In the resulting workflow, add these actions in order: Rename Finder Items and Open Finder Items (both under Files & Folders), and then Update iPod (under Music).

In the Rename Finder Items action, choose Name Single Item from the first pop-up menu, click the Options button, enter **untitled** in the Name field, and enable the Show This Action When The Workflow Runs option. The

name of the action will change to Name Single Item In Finder Item Names.

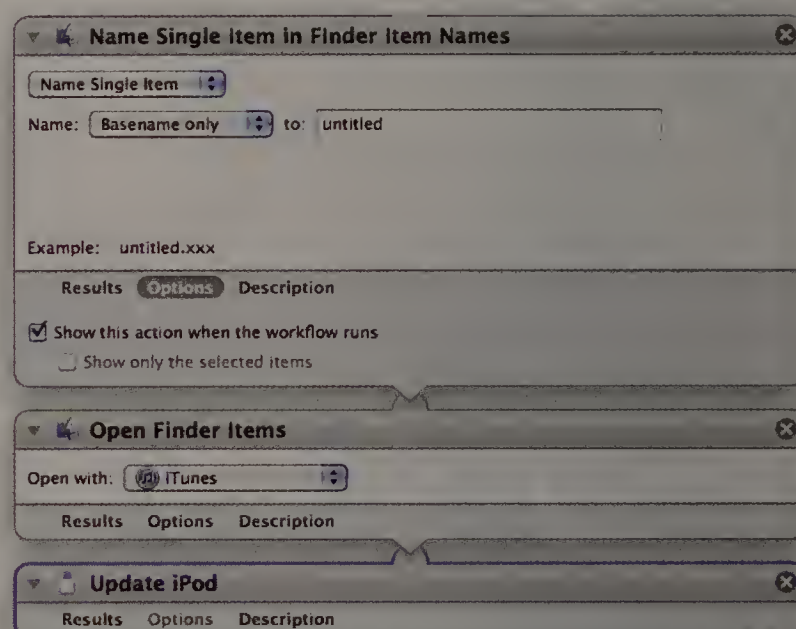
In the Open Finder Items action, click on the Open With pop-up menu and select

iTunes from the list of applications. Save (File ▶ Save) and name your workflow.

## Try It Out

Now, jack your iOS device into your Mac and launch iTunes. Select the device in iTunes' Source list and click the Books tab at the top of the window. Make sure that Sync Books is enabled and that the All Books option is also enabled. (If you choose Selected Books, the workflow won't work.)

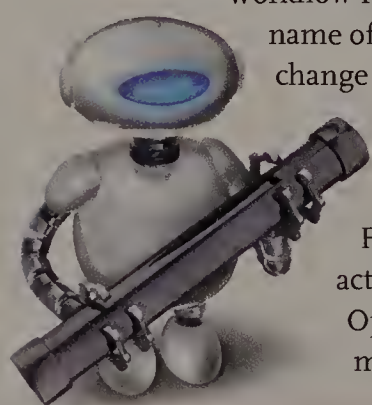
Open a PDF file in Preview and choose File ▶ Print. In the Print dialog box that appears, click on the PDF pop-up menu at the bottom of the window. From that menu choose the workflow you just created. A Rename Finder Items window will appear, in which you'll be prompted for a name for the PDF. After entering a name in the Name field, click the Continue button. The workflow will launch iTunes if it's not already open and add the PDF file to iTunes' Books area. It will then initiate a sync of your attached iOS device and copy the PDF to the device.



**The Completed Workflow** Here you can see all the actions that make up the workflow.

## Caveats and Cautions

If you delete an e-book or PDF file directly on your iOS device and then sync your iOS device, the Sync Books option within iTunes' Books tab will change from All Books to Selected Books. When this happens, your workflow will no longer function because the PDF file you've "sent" from Preview isn't among the books you've selected in iTunes. For it to start working again, you must enable the All Books option and click the Apply button at the bottom of the iTunes window.



## Be-ez LA Robe Air 11

For many—most?—owners of the 11-inch MacBook Air, size and weight are of paramount importance. You don't want to weigh down the laptop with bulky, heavy protection. On the other hand, many of the laptop bags specifically designed for the 11-inch Air are, like the Air itself, compact—if you've got a bunch of other gear to carry, you're out of luck. A more-flexible option is a laptop sleeve that protects the Air inside another bag, large or small. If you're looking for the best combination of sleeve protection and light weight, Be-ez's LA robe Air 11 (\$30; [www.be-ez.com](http://www.be-ez.com)) is tough to beat. While it looks like a simple neoprene sleeve, it's actually made of 5mm-thick, low-resilience polyurethane (LRPU), a memory foam-like material that is better able to absorb shocks and bumps. The LA robe Air 11 comes in a variety of designs.—DAN FRANKS



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## REVIEWS

Hardware and Software for  
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## HARDWARE

**Cisco Linksys E4200 Router** △

The Linksys E4200 dual-band wireless gigabit router offers great performance and features. This is the first 450-mbps wireless router (most high-end consumer routers offer 300 mbps) to pass through our hands, and the extra bandwidth seemed to work well. Streaming a 1080p movie to a digital media adapter while downloading a large 1.85GB file at the same time worked fine. The E4200 offers simultaneous dual-band 2.4GHz and 5GHz wireless, advanced quality of service (QoS) features, a guest login network, an SPI firewall, and Wi-Fi-protected setup. Other features include UPnP media serving of files from USB drives attached to the unit, a DMZ, port forwarding, triggered port forwarding, and parental controls. The only thing missing from the E4200 is support for IPv6, which Cisco says it will roll out later this year in a firmware upgrade. At \$180, the E4200 has supplanted the E3000 as the top model in the Cisco Linksys consumer router lineup ([macworld.com/7061](http://macworld.com/7061)).  
★★★★; \$180; Cisco, [homestore.cisco.com](http://homestore.cisco.com)

**Dell 2150cdn**

The Dell 2150cdn color laser printer looks like a business bargain.

Its low purchase price buys you good performance and some expandability, but the 2150cdn's toner costs range from just average to expensive. Standard paper handling includes a 250-sheet paper cassette, a manual-feed slot, a 150-sheet top output bin, and automatic



two-sided printing. The 2150cdn's speed is middling. In tests, plain-text pages printed at 13.7 ppm, and a full-page, high-resolution photo printed at an underwhelming 0.8 ppm. Although the output quality from the 2150cdn was nice, it took several tedious rounds of using the manual registration controls to achieve it. Once the settings were tweaked, color graphics looked realistic and mostly crisp, with just a little fuzziness in finer details. Text was nearly impeccable. The printer's standard-size, 1200-page toner cartridges are very expensive: The \$60 black cartridge comes to 5 cents per page, and each \$80 color cartridge (cyan, magenta, yellow) is 6.7 cents per page. A four-color page would cost 25 cents to print. Buying high-yield toner cartridges brings printing costs to about average: 3.3 cents per page for black, and 15.3 cents for a four-color page ([macworld.com/7062](http://macworld.com/7062)).  
★★★★; \$365; Dell, [www.dell.com](http://www.dell.com)

**Fujitsu ScanSnap S1100** △

The Fujitsu ScanSnap S1100 is a small and light USB-powered document scanner that can scan only one side of a sheet of paper at a time. It lacks an automatic document feeder, so you must load each sheet of a multipage document individually. The S1100 will combine multiple pages into the same document until you tell it to complete the scan job, though. The S1100 offers 600 dots-per-inch optical resolution and scans in color, grayscale, and monochrome; the scanner switches modes as it automatically detects the type of page it's scanning. You can save files as JPEG, PDF, and searchable PDF. The S1100 is not TWAIN-compliant. The scanner offers

easy-to-use presets for scanning to Microsoft Office applications, as well as to cloud services like Evernote and Google Docs. In our tests, an 8-by-10-inch photo took 7 seconds to scan at 150 dpi, 200 dpi, and 300 dpi. Choosing the highest (600 dpi) setting increased the scan time to 22 seconds. A text-searchable PDF took around ten seconds, using default settings. Scan quality was good enough for digitizing paper documents. But photo and grayscale line art scans were dark and overly saturated ([macworld.com/7063](http://macworld.com/7063)).

★★★★½; \$199; Fujitsu, [www.fujitsu.com](http://www.fujitsu.com)

**Xerox Phaser 6500DN** ▷

Xerox's Phaser 6500DN color laser printer, which is designed for small and medium-size workgroups, carries a temptingly low price, but its replacement toner will cost you. The Phaser 6500DN provides USB and ethernet connectivity; a 250-sheet main input tray and integrated manual-feed slot; and a top, 150-sheet output tray. Two-sided printing is standard, but Mac users must enable it manually. The Phaser 6500DN's performance was slower than average: 13.1 ppm with plain text; 2.7 ppm with mixed text and graphics; and a sluggish 0.4 ppm with a high-resolution, color photo. Black text was perfectly crisp, but solid areas in either grayscale or color showed inkjet-printer-like graininess. There were also registration problems with color printing that couldn't be

**Find It Online**

For expanded reviews, type the blue URL at the end of each summary into your browser's address bar.





remedied. The printer ships with 1000-page cartridges for all four colors. The 3000-page replacement black cartridge costs \$106, or 3.5 cents per page. The two sizes of color cartridges include 1000-page models for \$65 apiece (6.5 cents per color), and 2500-page models for \$110 apiece (4.4 cents per color). A four-color page will cost you between 16.7 and 23 cents. These prices more closely resemble those of a typical color inkjet printer than those of a color laser printer ([macworld.com/7064](http://macworld.com/7064)).

⬆⬆⬆; \$430; Xerox, [www.office.xerox.com](http://www.office.xerox.com)



## SOFTWARE

### Relationship 2.1.1 ▲

Jumsoft's Relationship 2.1.1 is an untraditional customer relationship management (CRM) and project management (PM) program that leverages your existing iCal events and address book contacts. It makes it easy for you to bring together contacts and events, as well as e-mail messages, documents, and Web pages, in a central location. Like every Jumsoft application, Relationship is beautifully designed and puts all of its major tools right at your fingertips. Still, the program doesn't perform the functions most CRM/PM programs do. Instead it acts as a visually organized container for all the data involved in a project. That's nice, but it's not project or customer relationship management as most users know it. Relationship is a good program for organizing and keeping track of the many disparate and often disorganized pieces that come into play as a part of any project. Unfortunately, it doesn't really offer any of the tools necessary to actually *manage* customer relationships or projects ([macworld.com/7065](http://macworld.com/7065)).

⬆⬆⬆; \$39; Jumsoft, [www.jumsoft.com](http://www.jumsoft.com)

## Top Products YOUR GUIDE TO THE BEST HARDWARE WE'VE TESTED



### HARD DRIVES Desktop

PRODUCT	RATING	PRICE <sup>A</sup>	TYPE	FIND CODE <sup>B</sup>
<b>AV Drive</b> <a href="http://www.caldigit.com">www.caldigit.com</a>	⬆⬆⬆½	\$195 (1TB)	USB 3.0	6757
<b>iT1 Dock</b> <a href="http://www.istoragepro.com">www.istoragepro.com</a>	⬆⬆⬆	\$329 (2TB)	quad interface	5843
<b>My Book Studio</b> (pictured) <a href="http://www.wdc.com">www.wdc.com</a>	⬆⬆⬆	\$160 (2TB)	triple interface	6849



### HARD DRIVES Portable

PRODUCT	RATING	PRICE <sup>A</sup>	TYPE	FIND CODE <sup>B</sup>
<b>eGo BlackBelt Mac Edition</b> <a href="http://go.iomega.com">go.iomega.com</a>	⬆⬆⬆	\$200 (1TB)	double interface	7013
<b>eGo Mac Edition</b> <a href="http://go.iomega.com">go.iomega.com</a>	⬆⬆⬆	\$110 (500GB)	triple interface	5219
<b>FreeAgent GoFlex Ultra-Portable Drive</b> (pictured) <a href="http://www.seagate.com">www.seagate.com</a>	⬆⬆⬆	\$80 (500GB)	single interface	6631



### INPUT DEVICES Keyboards, Mice, Pen Tablets

PRODUCT	RATING	PRICE <sup>A</sup>	TYPE	FIND CODE <sup>B</sup>
<b>Intuos4 Wireless</b> <a href="http://intuos.wacom.com">intuos.wacom.com</a>	⬆⬆⬆½	\$385	pen tablet	6422
<b>Magic Trackpad</b> <a href="http://www.apple.com">www.apple.com</a>	⬆⬆⬆	\$64	trackpad	6436
<b>TactilePro 3</b> (pictured) <a href="http://www.matias.ca">www.matias.ca</a>	⬆⬆⬆½	\$150	keyboard	6421



### PRINTERS Laser

PRODUCT	RATING	PRICE <sup>A</sup>	TYPE	FIND CODE <sup>B</sup>
<b>5130cdn</b> (pictured) <a href="http://www.dell.com">www.dell.com</a>	⬆⬆⬆½	\$1549	LED, color	6009
<b>C544DN</b> <a href="http://www.lexmark.com">www.lexmark.com</a>	⬆⬆⬆½	\$375	LED, color	4356
<b>Color LaserJet CP2025dn</b> <a href="http://www.hp.com">www.hp.com</a>	⬆⬆⬆	\$330	LED, color	4823



### PRINTERS Multifunction

PRODUCT	RATING	PRICE <sup>A</sup>	TYPE	FIND CODE <sup>B</sup>
<b>Artisan 725 Arctic Edition</b> (pictured) <a href="http://www.epson.com">www.epson.com</a>	⬆⬆⬆	\$200	inkjet	6758
<b>Color LaserJet CM1312nfi</b> <a href="http://www.hp.com">www.hp.com</a>	⬆⬆⬆	\$356	laser	5183
<b>Pixma MG5220</b> <a href="http://www.usa.canon.com">www.usa.canon.com</a>	⬆⬆⬆½	\$99	inkjet	6850

<sup>A</sup> All prices are the best current prices taken from a PriceGrabber survey of retailers at press time. <sup>B</sup> In a browser's address field, typing a find code after [macworld.com/](http://macworld.com/) takes you to a product's review or overview.



# PLAYLIST

Everything You Need to Know about iPods, iTunes, and Mac-based Entertainment

## Home Sharing and iOS 4.3: Happy Together

How to stream audio and video from your Mac to your iPhone or iPad

BY KIRK MCELHEARN

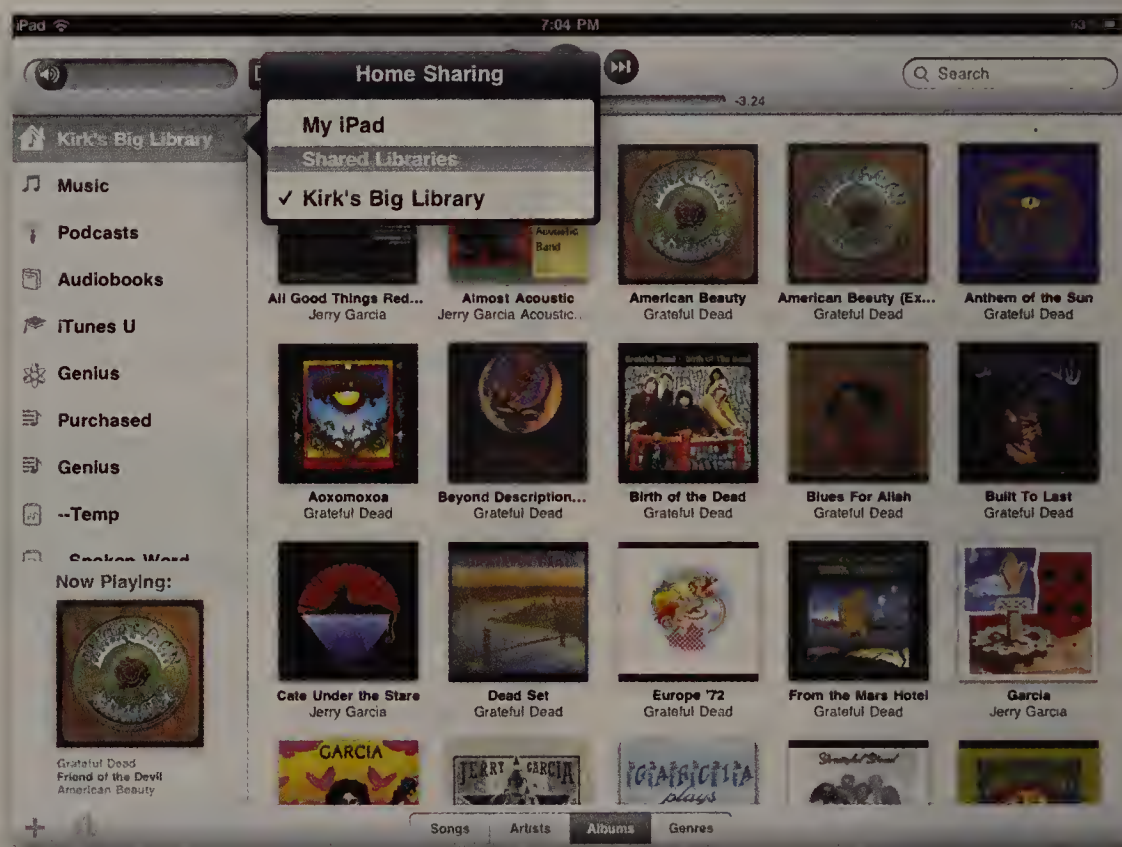
One of the marquee features of iOS 4.3 is an extension of iTunes' Home Sharing feature. Introduced in iTunes 9, Home Sharing was initially designed to allow you to share music and copy files between iTunes on different computers over a local network. But with the release of iOS 4.3 and iTunes 10.2, you can now use Home Sharing on iOS devices as well. Here's how it works.

### iTunes Setup

To start with, you need to activate Home Sharing in iTunes on each of the Macs (and Windows PCs) whose libraries you want to share. To do this, go to the Advanced menu in iTunes and choose Turn On Home Sharing. You'll be prompted to enter your Apple ID and password. This is where the Home Sharing feature has its limits; only those computers sharing the same iTunes account can use Home Sharing together. If your family members each have different iTunes accounts, you'll have to choose one for Home Sharing.

### Each copy of iTunes needs to be authorized (for the same iTunes account) for Home Sharing to work.

Each copy of iTunes needs to be authorized (for the same iTunes account) for Home Sharing to work. If iTunes isn't already authorized, this takes place when you turn Home Sharing on. This means that Home Sharing goes hand in hand with the five-computer limit per iTunes account. Also, if you turn Home Sharing off



**iPad Home Sharing** You can view a shared library in the iPad's iPod app.

permanently on one of your computers—and you don't use that computer to listen to any DRM material—don't forget to deauthorize it from iTunes'

Store menu. (Note that you cannot share Audible files via Home Sharing.)

Once you've activated Home Sharing on your different copies of iTunes, each copy of iTunes displays the other computers' iTunes libraries, and any user can listen to or view content in another user's library. In addition, you can copy items from other libraries;

simply select an item, then click the Import button to add it to your library. (Note that you can also import playlists from other computers by using this method.) The Settings window lets you tell iTunes to automatically copy any of five types of purchased content from another library. Unfortunately, you can't use that automatic function to copy content that didn't come from the iTunes Store (ripped CDs, for example), which means that the feature won't help you to keep multiple iTunes libraries in sync.

A new feature in iTunes 10.2 makes Home Sharing a bit easier to work with. If you open the Energy Saver system preference, and check the Wake For Network Access or Wake For AirPort Network Access option (the wording



depends on the kind of Mac you have), shared iTunes libraries will be visible in the iTunes sidebar even if the Macs hosting them are asleep. If you click on such a library, the Mac will wake up and you can access its content.

### iOS 4.3 Setup

With iOS 4.3, you can go even further. Home Sharing is now available on any iPhone, iPod touch, or iPad that can run the latest update to Apple's mobile operating system. To set it up, go to Settings ► iPod on your iOS device. You'll see a new Home Sharing section—enter the Apple ID and password of the account you used for Home Sharing on your computer(s) and then navigate back to the main interface.

**Music** The next step depends on the type of content you want to stream to your iOS device (Apple could use a little more consistency in this area, for sure). To stream music on an iPhone, launch the iPod app to access music. On an iPod touch, launch the Music app, and on an iPad, launch the iPod app. On the iPhone or iPod touch, tap on More, and then Shared. You'll see a list of shared libraries that are available. Tap on one to select it; you may need to wait a while for the library to load if it's large—it took several minutes to load my library of more than 60,000 items, which makes this feature somewhat impractical if you want to listen to anything

without pausing for a cup of tea first. To stream music on the iPad, go to the main screen of the iPod app, tap on Library in the sidebar, and then choose a library from the pop-up menu.

In either case, you'll see your different libraries (Music, Podcasts, Audiobooks, and so on), as well as available playlists. After you've selected a library or playlist, you can tap Songs, Artists, Albums, Genres, or Composers to sort by those criteria, to help you narrow down your selection. Tap one of these categories to view its contents, and then tap the item you want to listen to.

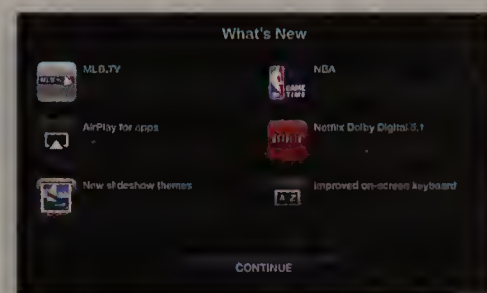
**Video** As with streaming music, the method you use to stream video from an iTunes library depends on the type of iOS device you're using. On an iPhone, the iPod app handles your audio and video content, so the process is the same as it is for music. But on an iPad or iPod touch, you'll need to launch the Videos app. On the iPad, you'll see the available libraries; on the iPhone or iPod touch, you'll need to tap Shared to see a list of libraries. Tap one library to view its contents, and then tap an icon to view either a movie or the available episodes of a TV show. You can watch any videos on an iOS device just as if they were on the device, so long as your network can handle it.

### The Last Word

The new Home Sharing feature is very nice to have on iOS devices. You can now leave all your content on your computer and access it from any device on your network. This doesn't mean that you can take it all with you when you leave your home, but at least you can listen to or view anything in your library when you're within reach of your wireless network.

Right now, the time it takes to load a large library limits the usefulness of this feature for people with large media collections, but hopefully Apple will tweak the process to speed things up.

Senior Contributor **Kirk McElhearn** writes about more than just Macs on his blog, Kirkville ([www.mcelhearn.com](http://www.mcelhearn.com)). Kirk's latest book is *Take Control of iTunes 10: The FAQ* ([www.takecontrolbooks.com](http://www.takecontrolbooks.com)).



## Apple TV Gains MLB, NBA Streaming

BY CHRISTOPHER BREEN

Apple recently brought some new features to its second-generation Apple TV ([macworld.com/6635](http://macworld.com/6635)). Notably, the 4.2 update adds support for streaming sports content from MLB.TV and NBA League Pass.

The update also offers greater support for AirPlay, so that iOS devices running iOS 4.3 can stream video and audio from supported apps (now, including Safari). And three additional photo slideshow themes have been added—Scrapbook, Photo Mobile, and Holiday Mobile. The Apple TV's Netflix component supports Dolby Digital 5.1 surround sound. And an improved on-screen keyboard layout makes entering information easier.

Of these improvements, the streaming sports options are clearly the most important. Found under the Apple TV's Internet menu, these subscription services let you watch baseball or basketball games, view standings, and more. The price for MLB.TV remains \$120 a year (or \$25 a month) for MLB.TV Premium and \$100 a year (or \$20 a month) for the standard service. The prices for NBA League Pass vary, but you can choose between watching up to seven NBA teams or watching all NBA teams throughout the regular season. Existing blackout restrictions apply, so you can't watch your local team.

Get version 4.2 (actually 4.2.1 at press time), by choosing Settings ► General ► Update Software on your Apple TV.



**Turn on Home Sharing** Set up home sharing in iTunes.



# My Time with Napster

BY JONATHAN SEFF

Last October, my colleague Christopher Breen compared four streaming music subscription services: Mog, Napster, Rdio, and Rhapsody ([macworld.com/6697](http://macworld.com/6697)). Before then, I'd never considered paying, as Steve Jobs has called it, to "rent" my music. But after talking to Chris about it while editing his story, I was intrigued enough to give a subscription service a try.

For a variety of reasons I decided to go with Napster ([www.napster.com](http://www.napster.com)). I signed up at the beginning of November for a year of access, and wanted to share my experience—both the good and the bad—of using the service so far.

## The Good

Although there are definitely limitations to streaming music, there are a lot of things about it that are pretty cool.

**High Quality** Napster offers very good streaming quality. In a world of compressed audio files, it would be hard to tell the difference between downloaded files and Napster's streaming files.

Play Featured Music Featured Now Playing

Showing 92 of 92 Albums



Endgame  
Rise Against  
Mar 15, 2011



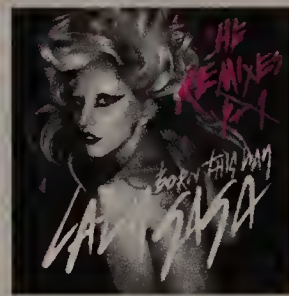
Till the World Ends  
Britney Spears  
Mar 7, 2011



Give the Drummer Some [Deluxe Explicit Version]  
Travis Barker  
Mar 15, 2011  
[EXPLICIT]



Rare Bird Alert  
Steve Martin and The Steep Canyon Rangers  
Mar 15, 2011



Born This Way (The Remixes Pt. 1)  
Lady Gaga  
Mar 15, 2011



Several Shades of Why  
J Mascis  
Mar 14, 2011

**Better Than Previews** With Napster, I can (in most cases) listen to complete songs instead of just short previews.

**Expanded Musical Horizons** Napster lets me listen to music I'd never buy, which opens me up to lots of new (or new-to-me) music.

**Saves Me Money** Instead of buying an album I might only listen to once, I can listen to it as part of my monthly fee.

**Good Pricing** A whole year of Napster plus mobile access costs \$96 (\$8 a month). That gets me unlimited streaming to my computer, plus mobile access (more on that shortly).

**iOS Support** With a Napster-plus-mobile-access account, you can also enjoy Napster on iOS, BlackBerry, and Android devices. Plus, you can download songs, albums, and playlists to your iOS device to listen to offline.

**Squeezebox Support** At home, I listen to a lot of music in the family area through a Logitech Squeezebox Radio, which supports Napster and Rhapsody.

## The Not-So-Good

Now, lest you think me a love-struck fool totally enamored with Napster, I do have several complaints.

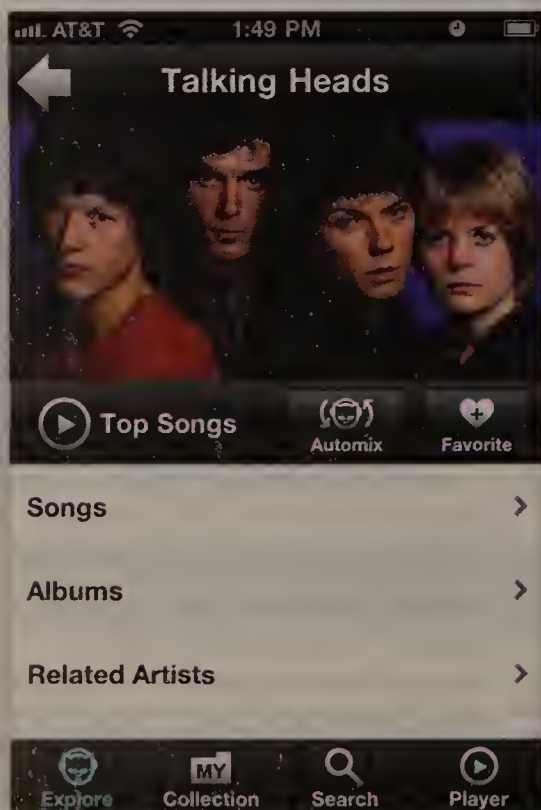
**Web-Based Player Isn't Great** My biggest problem with Napster is how you listen to it. There's no desktop application, so everything is controlled through a (Flash-enabled) Web browser. The interface is rather ugly, and although you can create playlists or add entire albums to the playback queue, there's no way to control anything without mousing and clicking—in other words, no keyboard shortcuts as there are with iTunes.

**New Releases Are Hard to Find** Unfortunately, there's no real new-releases section. There's a recent-albums feature, but it's poorly implemented.

**Purchase-Only Albums** Some albums (or specific songs) are purchase-only. In that case, you're limited to a preview. But the bigger problem is that there's no way to tell which albums or songs have such restrictions unless you click an album.

## Featured Music

Because Napster lacks a new-releases section, you're stuck with the featured-music layout.



**iOS App** You can view an artist page on an iPhone through the Napster iOS app.





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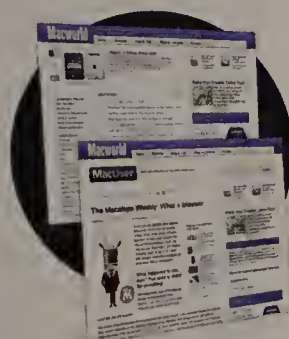
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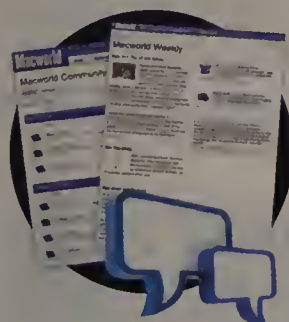
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## REVIEWS

Home Entertainment Hardware,  
Software, and Accessories

## HARDWARE

Epson MovieMate 85HD  
Projector ▴

The Epson MovieMate 85HD is a portable, all-in-one home-theater system, complete with a 720p high-definition projector, an integrated DVD player, and built-in speakers. All that's missing is a wall or a sheet (or, if you want to get fancy, a screen) to display the image on. From a distance of three feet, the 86HD projects a 33-inch (diagonal) picture. From 30 feet, the picture measures 320 inches diagonal. This versatile projector can turn your backyard into an outdoor theater, or your living room into a movie house ([macworld.com/7088](http://macworld.com/7088)).

★★★★; \$799; Epson, [www.epson.com](http://www.epson.com)

Logitech  
Wireless  
Speaker  
Z515 ▴

Logitech's

Wireless Speaker Z515 is a relatively affordable, rechargeable, wireless speaker system. You can connect to it via Bluetooth—for example, to listen to iOS devices or to a Bluetooth-enabled computer. But you can also connect via an included 2.4GHz, RF (radio-frequency) USB dongle; insert it into a free USB port on your Mac, and you're paired almost instantly. Audio quality from the system's dual two-inch drivers is mediocre at best—sounding much like an amplified version of a laptop's built-in speakers. Bass presence is negligible, and treble response sounds muddled and even, at louder volumes, a bit distorted ([macworld.com/7089](http://macworld.com/7089)).

★★★½; \$100; Logitech, [www.logitech.com](http://www.logitech.com)

Nocs NS200  
Headphones ▴

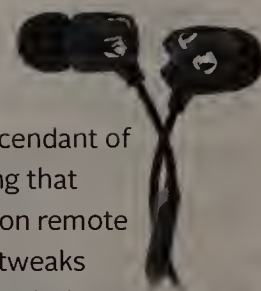
Swedish audio company Nocs was founded in 2008 by “a couple of guys addicted to Apple products,” with the goal of creating headphones that match the aesthetics and performance of Apple's own devices. The company offers three in-ear models, and we recently had the chance to test the least expensive model, the \$70 NS200. The NS200 is a thoughtfully designed set of canalbuds that will appeal to minimalists—in particular, listeners who like V-Moda's bassy sound but not the company's flashy design. However, the market for canalbuds in the \$50 to \$100 price range is crowded with a number of models that sound as good as or better than the NS200 headphones, and the NS200 does little to set itself apart—aside from its intentionally minimalist design, that is ([macworld.com/7102](http://macworld.com/7102)).

★★★★½; \$70; Nocs, [nocs.se](http://nocs.se)

V-Moda Vibrato  
Headphones ▴

V-Moda's new \$130 Vibrato is the direct descendant of the \$120 Vibe II, updating that model with a three-button remote and a few minor design tweaks (it's sold exclusively through the Apple Store). The Vibrato offers clear design improvements on V-Moda's Vibe II and Remix Remote models. The Vibrato also offers better sound overall than the Remix, though the Vibrato has more-pronounced lower bass and a flashier appearance. It's also worth noting that the very similar Vibe II is still available from some retailers at a substantial discount over the Vibrato and in more color schemes; however, that model does not have the Vibrato's three-button remote, hybrid eartips, or Kevlar-reinforced cable. One notable extra is the lifetime guarantee that offers a 50 percent discount on new headphones if the Vibrato breaks outside of its already-generous two-year warranty ([macworld.com/7090](http://macworld.com/7090)).

★★★★; \$130; V-Moda, [v-moda.com](http://v-moda.com)



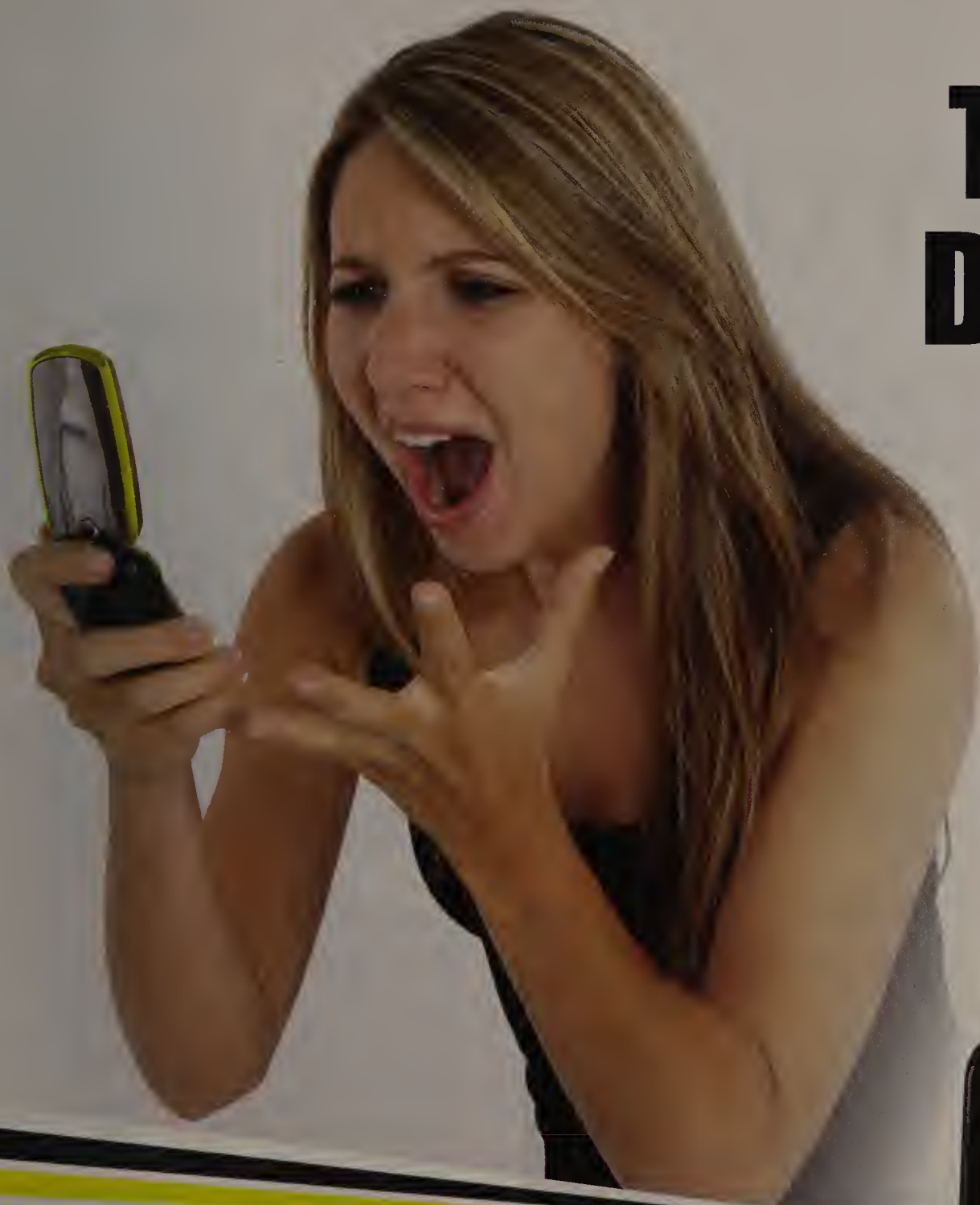
## iPods: Current Lineup

PRODUCT	SPECS	RATING	PRICE*	DISPLAY	PERFORMANCE	FIND CODE®
iPod Classic	160GB	★★★★	\$249	2.5-inch color	36 hours of music playback; 6 hours of video playback	5262
iPod Touch	8GB	★★★★½	\$229	3.5-inch color (Retina)	40 hours of music playback; 7 hours of video playback	6553
	32GB	★★★★½	\$299	3.5-inch color (Retina)	40 hours of music playback; 7 hours of video playback	6554
	64GB	★★★★½	\$399	3.5-inch color (Retina)	40 hours of music playback; 7 hours of video playback	6555
iPod Nano	8GB	★★★★	\$149	1.5-inch color	24 hours of music playback; 5 hours of video playback	6551
	16GB	★★★★	\$179	1.5-inch color	24 hours of music playback; 5 hours of video playback	6552
iPod Shuffle	2GB	★★★★	\$49	none	15 hours of music playback	6550

\* All prices are Apple's prices. ® In a browser's address field, typing a find code after [macworld.com/](http://macworld.com/) takes you to a product's review or overview.



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# Macworld **HOT STUFF**

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about This Month



## iPod Nano Learns New Tricks

Although iOS devices seem to get all the attention these days, it's good to know that Apple hasn't completely forgotten about the other members of the iPod family. You'll recall that the iPod nano saw a radical redesign last September—it became a tiny touch-screen device. And now Apple has released iPod software update version 1.1 for the sixth-generation iPod nano, which adds two new features to the touchscreen player. Version 1.1 allows you to completely turn off the iPod (rather than just put it to sleep) and to control music or radio playback by using the Sleep/Wake button. Previously, holding down the Sleep/Wake button for several seconds would force the nano to go to sleep. Now, you can turn it off instead (as long as it's not charging or connected to a powered accessory or cable, that is). You can also now double-click the Sleep/Wake button to either skip to the next track or radio station, or pause or play the current track or live radio ([www.apple.com](http://www.apple.com)).

—JONATHAN SEFF

## House of Marley Product Line

The House of Marley recently launched a series of cool-looking earbuds, headphones, and iPod/iPhone docking speakers and boomboxes ranging from \$30 to \$500. Products are organized into three price/quality tiers: Jammin' (good), Freedom (better), and Destiny (best). The company says that it focused on sound quality, sustainability, and charity. The products are beautifully designed—check out the \$250 Roots Rock speaker bag boombox (pictured). Look for the products beginning in late summer 2011 ([www.thehouseofmarley.com](http://www.thehouseofmarley.com)).—JONATHAN SEFF



## Wrapsol Protective Films

We've seen plenty of good-quality full-body protective films for iPods, iPhones, and iPads, but Wrapsol has taken a unique approach. Instead of making the film as thin as possible, the company made its \$15 to \$30 films thicker and a tiny bit spongy to offer a modicum of shock protection—an area in which films generally fall far short of traditional cases. Wrapsol also offers antiglare versions that avoid being magnets for smudges and fingerprints ([www.wrapsol.com](http://www.wrapsol.com)).—DAN FRANKS



## DreamGear iSound Portable Power Max

Tired of all those wimpy external batteries for your portable devices? Then you might want to check out DreamGear's iSound Portable Power Max, an external backup power supply with a whopping 16,000 mAh battery. Besides the huge capacity, the \$130 charger has five USB ports to let you charge multiple iPods, iPhones, iPads, and other devices at the same time, yet it's not much bigger than an iPod touch. The built-in flashlight may be gimmicky, but the device is otherwise attractive and surprisingly lightweight ([www.isound.net](http://www.isound.net)).—JONATHAN SEFF



## iHOME iW1

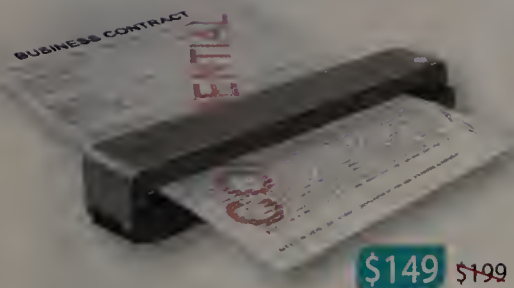
iHome recently announced the iW1, an AirPlay-enabled speaker system that will let you stream music from an iOS device or computer. The iW1 is powered by a rechargeable lithium-ion battery and employs Bongo Acoustics Digital Power Station technology and four active speakers to produce good sound in a compact design. It features a backlit, capacitive touch panel, and works with iHome's iOS apps. It will be available in summer 2011 and will cost \$300 ([www.ihomeaudio.com](http://www.ihomeaudio.com)).—DAVID DAHLQUIST



# Scan anything, anywhere!



## IRIScan™ Anywhere 2

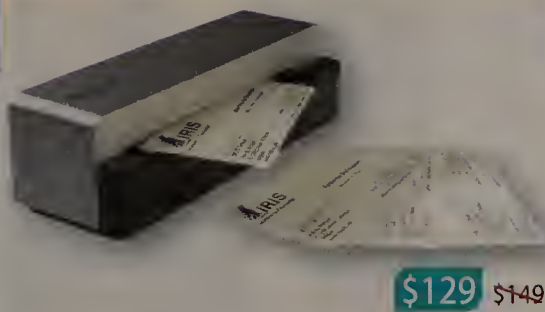


*The ultimate mobile solution for scanning all paper documents on the go.*

How convenient! No computer needed to scan just about anything anywhere you are! Ideal for documents, receipts, business cards, photos, etc.

Battery powered (rechargeable).  
512 MB internal memory, expandable.

## IRISCard™ Anywhere 4

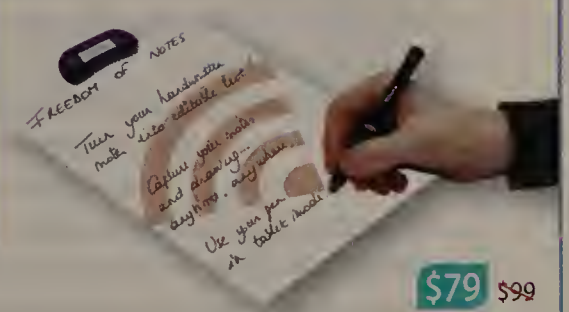


*First ever truly portable business card solution!*

Scan all your cards without the need to be connected to a computer. Instantly puts your contacts in Outlook®, Address Book and many more contact managers.

Battery powered (rechargeable).  
512 MB internal memory, expandable.

## IRISnotes™ 1.0



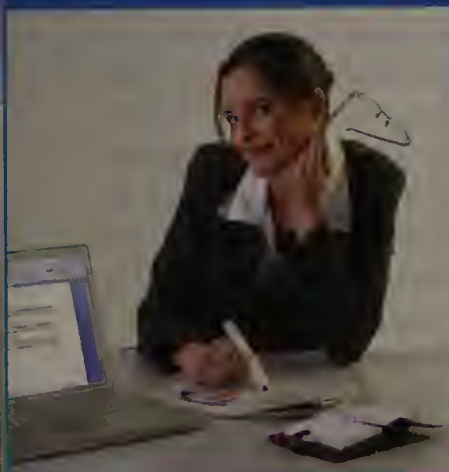
*If you write it down, it's worth keeping it!*

Capture your notes, drawings, doodles, in meetings, in class or even on the plane. Whatever you write will be saved for further editing, handwritten recognition, archive, etc.

Capture your notes, graphs, drawings  
... anytime, anywhere!

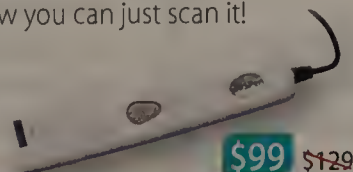
## IRISPen™ 6

### You scan. It types!



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Slide it over printed information and get completely editable text, right at your cursor.

**NEW!**

## IRISPhoto™ 4

### Scan all your photos!



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# DIGITAL PHOTO

Techniques and Gear for Shooting, Editing, and Managing Great Photos

## Make a Photo Journal in iPhoto

Use iPhoto's book-creation templates to create a story with text and images

BY BEN HARVELL

**W**ith iPhoto's book-creation tools, you can easily combine the best elements of photo albums, written diaries, and scrapbooks to create compelling and personal photo journals.

Unlike a regular photo book or album, a photo journal takes your photographs and uses them to tell a story. The images are organized chronologically and combined with large amounts of text to create an extensive and coherent narrative.

These journals can be a history of a period of time in your life, or they can get creative. You can document all your meals for a month, take a snapshot every day for a year, or create a record of your child's first months in the world.

### Gather the Right Photos

If the images you want to use are all part of one event or album, starting a book is as easy as selecting the collection, clicking Create, and selecting Book. If your photos are scattered, switch to the main Photos view and select the images you want by holding

### In a photo journal, images are organized chronologically and combined with text to create a coherent narrative.

down the ⌘ key and clicking thumbnails. Press ⌘-N to create a new album from the selected shots. Alternatively, you can create the book first and then drag photos into the project.

When choosing your images, don't just use the pretty pictures—look for shots that have a story behind them. You can mix in scans of ticket stubs or



**Beyond Captions** For photo journals, choose page layouts that include large text boxes.

other ephemera to give your book a scrapbook feel.

If you've edited some photos, apply the same adjustments to similar photos when possible to maintain a coherent style throughout. To do this, enter the Edit screen for your first image, select the Adjust tab, and make your changes. Now hold the Control key and click on

your image, then select Copy Adjustments. Move to other shots and select Paste Adjustments to apply edits.

All the photos you add to a book will be available in the book's Photos panel as you are designing. You can move images around, zoom in or out on images, or double-click to open one in the image editor at any point during the process.

### Customize Page Layouts

Picking the right book theme is key when creating a photo journal. The available page layouts differ with each theme, and you'll need options that allow for adding a lot of text. We recommend Photo Essay, or one of the Travel themes. (The Journal theme, oddly, doesn't have many text-heavy options.) Do not change themes after starting a photo journal, because you may lose your text.

Once you pick a theme, go through and change individual page layouts to get the right balance of photos and text. Click the outline of a page, and then click the layout button that appears above it. Choose the number of photos you want on the page from the drop-down menu, and select one of the resulting layout options.

Since text is key for a photo journal, select Text Page at the bottom of this drop-down menu to add periodic text-only pages throughout the book. All of these changes can also be made from the Design panel.



When your layouts are set, change the images on a page by dragging new shots in from the Photos panel.

### Work with Text

When you're ready to add words, decide on a font, text size, and text color for the book. Though selecting text brings up a pop-up menu with a few text features, you should click the Design button for the full list of font options. Choose your font attributes from the menus. When you're satisfied with the look of your text, click the Change Everywhere button to apply the same style to every text box in your book.

For a more casual and personal feel, look at script fonts such as Bradley Hand and Papyrus. For a professional look, fonts like Georgia and Helvetica will work best for text.

### Add a Little Something Extra

Image effects can be added to images to illustrate a story. For example, you could add a sepia effect to one image and then boost the color of the image next to it to suggest before and after.

Another great way to make a photo journal engaging is to add a map page from the layout menu. There are seven map styles to choose from, and you can even plot locations to point out where photos were taken.

If you have text-only pages but want to make them more interesting, you can make the background an image. Go to either the Background drop-down menu or the menu in the Design pane, and instead of selecting a background color, click on the last square, which shows a gray drawing of a bridge. Whatever image you now drag onto the page will become the background image. You can adjust the exposure of the image so that it doesn't overwhelm the text on top of it.

Another fun design option is to add a Spread layout, which displays one image across two pages. By selecting Include Text, you can even add a small amount of text to the page.

**Ben Harvell** ([twitter.com/benharvell](http://twitter.com/benharvell)) is a freelance writer living in England.

# 2011's Cool Camera Trends

BY STEPHANIE KENT

**B**efore you start shopping for a new camera, you should know what the latest and handiest features are on the newest digital camera models. Here are some fun and useful features you'll likely encounter. Keep an eye out for them.

### Low-Light-Optimized Sensors

Many companies are adding low-light-optimized sensors to their cameras. These backside-illuminated CMOS sensors reorder the elements that make up a sensor so that the wiring is behind the light-capturing diodes. This clears the way for more light to hit the diodes.



### Touchscreens

The touchscreen trend on cameras was spurred by the popularity of smartphones. However, the latest touchscreens actually add some very cool features. For example, the Panasonic Lumix DMC-GH2—a Micro Four Thirds camera—allows users to tap on part of an image on screen to adjust settings such as focus and exposure. On the Panasonic Lumix FX78 and FP7 cameras, you can tap to apply cosmetic touch-ups such as whitening teeth.

### In-Camera Help Modes

Many manufacturers are adding in-camera help modes to walk new owners through the basic features of the camera, as well as to explain the essentials of photography in plain English. Nikon's entry-level D3100 DSLR has a Guide Mode, and Canon's entry-level T3i and T3 DSLRs both

have a Feature Guide and a Basic+ mode for new users. The Olympus Pen line of cameras has the great Live Guide, and Sony's HX9V has a searchable guide.



### Geotagging

Geotagging keeps a record of a photo's location in the file's metadata, and some cameras, such as models from Casio, Panasonic, and Samsung, even allow you to see your photos on a map within the camera. This feature is helpful if you want to map out your images or just jog your memory about where a shot was taken.

### High-Speed Shooting Modes

Casio is the pack leader for high-speed video capabilities in point-and-shoot cameras. Its high-speed EX-F1, EX-FH25, EX-ZR100, and Tryx models can all shoot high-speed video at varying frames per second. The EX-F1 can shoot an impressive 1200 fps at 336 by 96. Users can slow down these high-speed videos to create great slow-motion ones. Other cameras with high-speed shooting modes include the Canon PowerShot E300 HS, and the Nikon Coolpix P500.





# Flare Photo Editor

This sleek and simple program adds retro film effects to your images

BY BEN LONG

## REVIEW

No matter how good your camera or photography skills, there will be times when your pictures need a little extra style. That's what Flare ([flareapp.com](http://flareapp.com)), the new image editor from Iconfactory and Artis Software, aims to offer, with a simple, iPhone-inspired interface that makes it easy for novice photo editors to add fun, stylized color effects and borders.

### Supersimple Image Edits

To begin experimenting with an image in Flare, drag and drop it into the main Flare window. To edit an image from your iPhoto or Aperture library, go to File ► Open and navigate to Media ► Photos in the left navigation panel.

Once you've imported an image, you can rotate it in 90-degree increments or crop it. To view your original image at any time, you simply click the toggle at the bottom of the screen. When you're ready to start stylizing your image, there are three different editing panes to choose from: Presets, Edit, and Snapshots. The Presets window shows a collection of 12 prebuilt looks to the right of your image, each with a small preview of how they will look on your chosen image. Additional presets can be downloaded from the Flare Website or by selecting Flare ► More Presets in the menu bar.

### Try Advanced Tweaks

If you want to alter a preset, or if none of the presets are to your taste, move on to the next pane: Edit. The Edit pane contains individual effects divided into Color, Lens, and Creative categories, and they adjust everything from color and contrast to texture, vignetting, borders, distortion, light leaks, glows, and more. For each effect you apply to an image, there's a simple slider for adjusting the strength of that control on your photo. Clicking the disclosure triangle displays more-advanced options for that effect.



**Pick a Preset** To instantly add a hip film look to one of your photos, select any of the 12 filters in Flare's Presets pane. You can download more looks from Flare's Website.

If you come up with a winning recipe of effects in the Edit panel, you can save it as a custom preset and apply it to other images later. Each edit includes a Blending Mode control, which lets you alter how the effect is applied to your image—something even Photoshop doesn't do.

### General Impressions

Most of Flare's effects are well implemented and yield attractive results. The texture, border, and vignette controls are very good, as are many of the color controls. However, general exposure and tone correction is fairly weak. For example, it's very difficult to brighten just the midtones in an image without also washing out the shadows. So if your image needs some basic brightening, you might do that in another


application like iPhoto before bringing it into Flare. Usually, though, the advantage of Flare is that you don't need a complicated host program to get access to the effects you need.

### Macworld's Buying Advice

Flare delivers a good value for the money. Novice users will find themselves easily creating cool effects, and experienced users will appreciate the ease of use, though they might be frustrated by the lack of basic adjustments. Flare works on Intel Macs running Mac OS X 10.6.6 or later.

★★★★; \$20; Iconfactory and Artis Software, [www.flareapp.com](http://www.flareapp.com); full review, [macworld.com/7115](http://macworld.com/7115)





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# The Tablet Camera Face-Off

BY TONY LEUNG AND TIM MOYNIHAN

One of the most talked-about features on the new iPad 2 is its back camera, but how useful is it really? We put the iPad 2's back camera and the rear-facing cameras of two other tablets, the Motorola Xoom ([macworld.com/7116](http://macworld.com/7116)) and the Samsung Galaxy Tab ([macworld.com/7117](http://macworld.com/7117)), through our labs' subjective testing for image and video quality. (To see number scores for each device, go to [macworld.com/7118](http://macworld.com/7118).)

## Still-Image Quality

The iPad 2's back camera turns out low-grade, 0.69-megapixel still images. The top-rated tablet in our image-quality testing was the Motorola Xoom, which boasts a 5-megapixel rear-facing camera that scored fairly well in exposure quality and sharpness. That said, the

Xoom still trailed both of the other tablets in color accuracy.

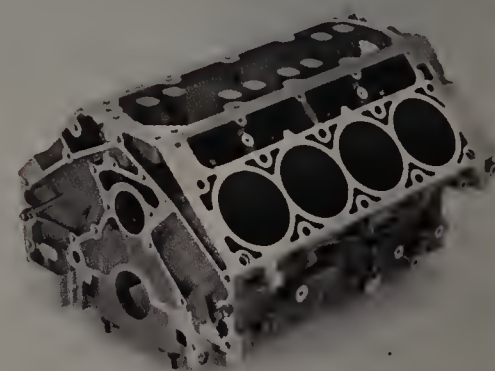
Just behind the Xoom is the Samsung Galaxy Tab, which offers a 3-megapixel rear-facing camera. The Galaxy Tab was neck and neck with the Xoom in many of our image-testing categories, but our judges found the Tab's camera lacking in terms of exposure and distortion.

Rounding out our test group was Apple's iPad 2, whose camera performed similarly to that of the latest iPod touch. The iPad 2's camera snaps photos that look decent on the iPad's display, but are noticeably grainy and muddy once you print them out. The iPad 2 was the only tablet in our tests whose camera doesn't have a flash.

## How We Test

We print unmarked 8 by 10 sample images from each camera, and have a panel of judges rate each one for exposure quality, color accuracy, sharpness, and distortion. The panel also watches sample video clips shot with each device in bright indoor lighting and low-light conditions; those clips are also rated for overall video quality and audio quality. For these tablet tests, we included sample images from the iPhone 4, the iPod touch, and the Canon PowerShot S95 as a basis of comparison. For our video tests, we included test footage from the Cisco Flip Video UltraHD.

BORN IN  
NEW YORK



for all iPhone 4

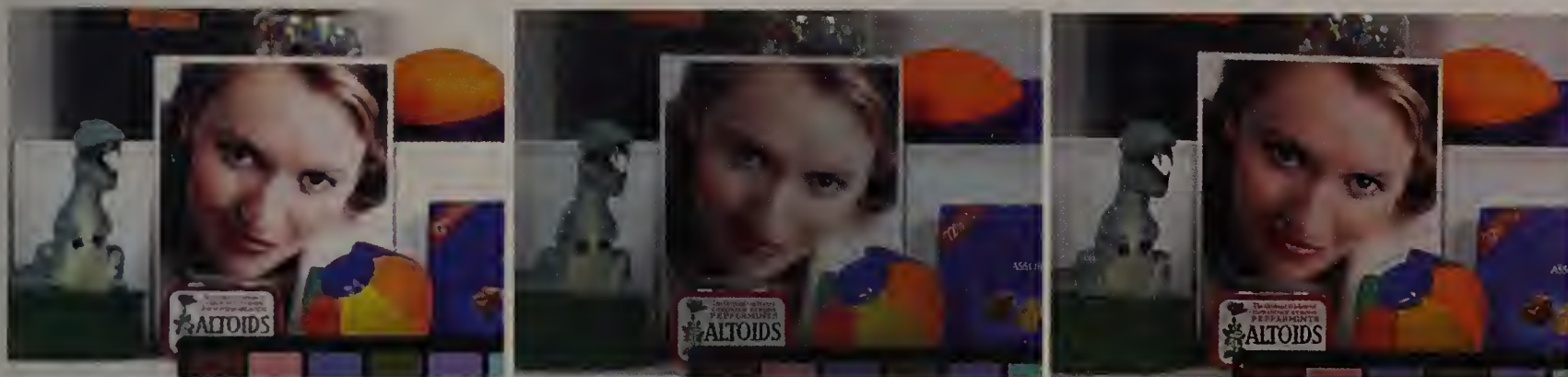
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**Side-by-Side** Take a look at our lab's test still images from the three tablets, and judge their quality for yourself. From left to right, the images are from the iPad 2, the Motorola Xoom, and the Samsung Galaxy Tab.

### Video Quality

There were a few surprises in our subjective video tests. All of the devices record 720p HD video at 30 fps. The iPad 2's video fared much better than its still images. The camera even produced video on a par with that of Cisco's Flip Video UltraHD, according to our panel of judges—though the iPad 2 still trailed behind the Motorola Xoom in video quality.

The Xoom bested the competition in our bright-light, low-light, and audio-capture tests. It outscored every device other than the Canon S95 and the Apple iPhone 4 in overall video quality.

The iPad 2 landed in second place among the tablets, earning a better video rating than the Cisco Flip Video UltraHD in our bright-light tests. It was on a par with the Flip in low-light situations, but it captured the weakest-sounding audio.

The Samsung Galaxy Tab's video placed last or second-to-last in each video testing category.

### Conclusion

The iPad's back camera is subpar, but still-image quality probably isn't a deal breaker for prospective tablet buyers. Cameras are mainly in the mix for of video-chatting purposes, not for taking serious photos.

TUAW: "I've come to really like the way the AluPen works with an iPad or iPhone."

GearDiary: "I finally felt I had found a stylus that looked like it 'belonged' with my iPad or iPhone."



**AluPen™**  
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# REVIEWS

Hardware, Software, and Accessories  
for Making and Managing Photographs

## HARDWARE

### Casio Exilim EX-H2OG ▸

The 14-megapixel, 10X-optical-zoom Casio Exilim EX-H2OG is a great little travel companion, thanks to well-implemented in-camera mapping and GPS features that make it a near-perfect pocket megazoom camera for your vacation. Although it performs well overall, a few key features are missing: It lacks manual controls, it omits a burst-shooting mode, and it doesn't shoot the sharpest photos in low light. All in all, however, the EX-H2OG offers a lot more to like than to complain about, and its battery life and in-camera GPS features are among the best we've seen to date ([macworld.com/7119](http://macworld.com/7119)).

★★★★½; \$350; Casio, [exilim.casio.com](http://exilim.casio.com)



### Olympus Pen E-PL2 ▸

The E-PL2 is a camera that is fun to use and also takes great pictures. As with its predecessor, the Olympus Pen E-PL1, there is in-body image stabilization, a pop-up flash, and an effective dust-reduction system. Olympus has enhanced the Live Guide controls with a feature called Live View, which lets you see the way a picture will look before you actually press the shutter button. With Olympus's Live Guide, you also get specific controls—explained in plain English, such as “make brighter” or “make darker”—that you can see on the LCD as you're moving the slider. The Olympus E-PL2 is a compact, versatile camera that will please anybody who wants to shoot great pictures without lugging around pounds of gear ([macworld.com/7120](http://macworld.com/7120)).

★★★★½; \$600; Olympus, [olympusamerica.com](http://olympusamerica.com)



### Panasonic Lumix DMC-GH2 ▾

It may not be a true DSLR, but the 16-megapixel Panasonic Lumix DMC-GH2, with interchangeable lenses, has features that outclass those of some of today's DSLRs, and the camera may indicate where future DSLRs are headed with regard to controls and video options. The Lumix GH2's video performance is impressive, but its still-image quality is a notch below that of a true DSLR: Colors and overall



exposure tend to look muted unless you dive into the camera's array of manual controls, which is a bit disappointing for a camera of the GH2's size and price. The field of Micro Four Thirds lenses is expanding, making the GH2 a viable alternative to a DSLR, especially for videographers. The GH2 sets a solid foundation with its best-in-class video quality, unique touchscreen controls, and 3D imaging capabilities. As a still camera, it's no slouch, but it fails to clear the DSLR bar. As a video-capture device, however, nothing in its class can touch it right now ([macworld.com/7121](http://macworld.com/7121)).

★★★★; \$1000; Panasonic, [www2.panasonic.com](http://www2.panasonic.com)

## Top Products YOUR GUIDE TO THE BEST HARDWARE WE'VE TESTED



### DIGITAL CAMERAS SLR

PRODUCT	RATING	PRICE <sup>A</sup>	TYPE	FIND CODE <sup>B</sup>
<b>60D</b> <a href="http://www.canon.com">www.canon.com</a>	★★★★	\$970	18-megapixel	<b>6805</b>
<b>a55</b> <a href="http://www.sonystyle.com">www.sonystyle.com</a>	★★★★½	\$740	16.2-megapixel	<b>6780</b>
<b>A580 (pictured)</b> <a href="http://www.sonystyle.com">www.sonystyle.com</a>	★★★★	\$870	16.2-megapixel	<b>6807</b>



### DIGITAL CAMERAS Point-and-Shoot

PRODUCT	RATING	PRICE <sup>A</sup>	TYPE	FIND CODE <sup>B</sup>
<b>HZ35W (pictured)</b> <a href="http://www.samsung.com">www.samsung.com</a>	★★★★	\$327	12-megapixel	<b>6331</b>
<b>PowerShot S95</b> <a href="http://www.canon.com">www.canon.com</a>	★★★★	\$389	10-megapixel	<b>6804</b>



### PRINTERS Inkjet

PRODUCT	RATING	PRICE <sup>A</sup>	TYPE	FIND CODE <sup>B</sup>
<b>Officejet Pro 8000 Wireless (pictured)</b> <a href="http://www.hp.com">www.hp.com</a>	★★★★	\$94	document, photo	<b>6017</b>
<b>PictureMate Dash PM 260</b> <a href="http://www.epson.com">www.epson.com</a>	★★★★	\$106	snapshot, photo	<b>5609</b>

<sup>A</sup> All prices are the best current prices taken from a PriceGrabber survey of retailers at press time. <sup>B</sup> In a browser's address field, typing a find code after [macworld.com/](http://macworld.com/) takes you to a product's review or overview.



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[Bose.com/headphones](http://Bose.com/headphones)

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# Macworld **HOT STUFF**

What We're Raving  
about This Month



## ReadySteady

Most tripods are too big to fit into a purse or pocket. And if you're shooting with a compact video camera, it can seem a little silly to pack the heavy gear just to avoid shaky shots. One solution is the readySteady, a portable, all-aluminum camera mount for pocket camcorders like the popular Flip. The gadget consists of two pieces: a solid circular base and a flexible wire that protrudes from it. The wire can attach to a camera with a standard tripod mount, and when stood upright, it can keep a camcorder as steady as a tripod can. Once you've set it up, keeping the camcorder from tipping over requires a delicate balancing act. The diameter of the device's base is two inches, while the wire extends up six inches. If the readySteady's fully assembled self can't fit in a purse or pocket, you can unscrew the wire from the base and stow it inside (\$30; [readysteadyvideo.com](http://readysteadyvideo.com)).—SAM FELSING



## Black Widow Camera Holster

Neck and shoulder pains are frequent problems for photographers hauling around heavy equipment. The Black Widow Camera Holster helps by resting your camera against your hip. It's a belt with a quick release pin that can quickly attach to and detach from almost any entry-level or midlevel camera that has a standard tripod mount. It points the camera away from the ground, preventing unwanted lens scratches while you kneel (\$50; [spiderholster.com](http://spiderholster.com)).—SAM FELSING



## Lo-Fi

Like the Instagram and Camera-Bag apps on the iPhone and other mobile devices, the Lo-Fi application for the Mac gives photographers a fun and simple way to add a retro feel to their images. Available for Macs and PCs, Lo-Fi features an impressive camera-style interface with controls for adding filters, resizing images, and adding frames. By combining the different styles, you can come up with hundreds of unique looks for your photos. When your fashionably dated masterpieces are complete, Lo-Fi can help you upload images to Flickr and Facebook with ease (\$19; [www.lofiapp.com](http://www.lofiapp.com)).—STEPHANIE KENT



## Midnight Shot NV-1 Night Vision Camera

There's a specialty compact camera for every type of photographer, and night owls are no exception. The Midnight Shot NV-1 Night Vision Camera comes with an infrared shooting mode for optimal low-light shots. Pictures snapped in pitch-black darkness come out with a ghostly, night-vision effect (\$150; [macworld.com/7122](http://macworld.com/7122)).—STEPHANIE KENT



## GYMBL

Still haven't mastered the art of snapping iPhone photos with a steady hand? The Gymbbl, from Youbiq, is a versatile grip and tripod that allows you to get steadier shots with your iPhone 4. The Gymbbl comes with a hard-shell case that attaches easily to the tripod, mounting the phone securely. The Gymbbl is ideal for using the iPhone's FaceTime feature hands-free, and when combined with the Youbiq photography app for the iPhone, it becomes the perfect rig for capturing and stitching together panoramic photos. The \$3 app also allows you to tag and store backups of your iPhone images online. The Gymbbl tripod is currently available in the Youbiq store (\$69; [www.youbiq.com](http://www.youbiq.com)).—STEPHANIE KENT





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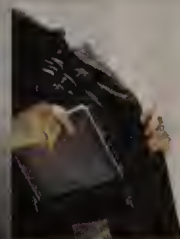
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# CREATE

Using the Web for Video, Graphics, Web Publishing, and Other Creative Pursuits

## Video Action on the iPad

iMovie 1.2 for iOS delivers new editing power to Apple's latest mobile devices

BY JEFF CARLSON

### REVIEW

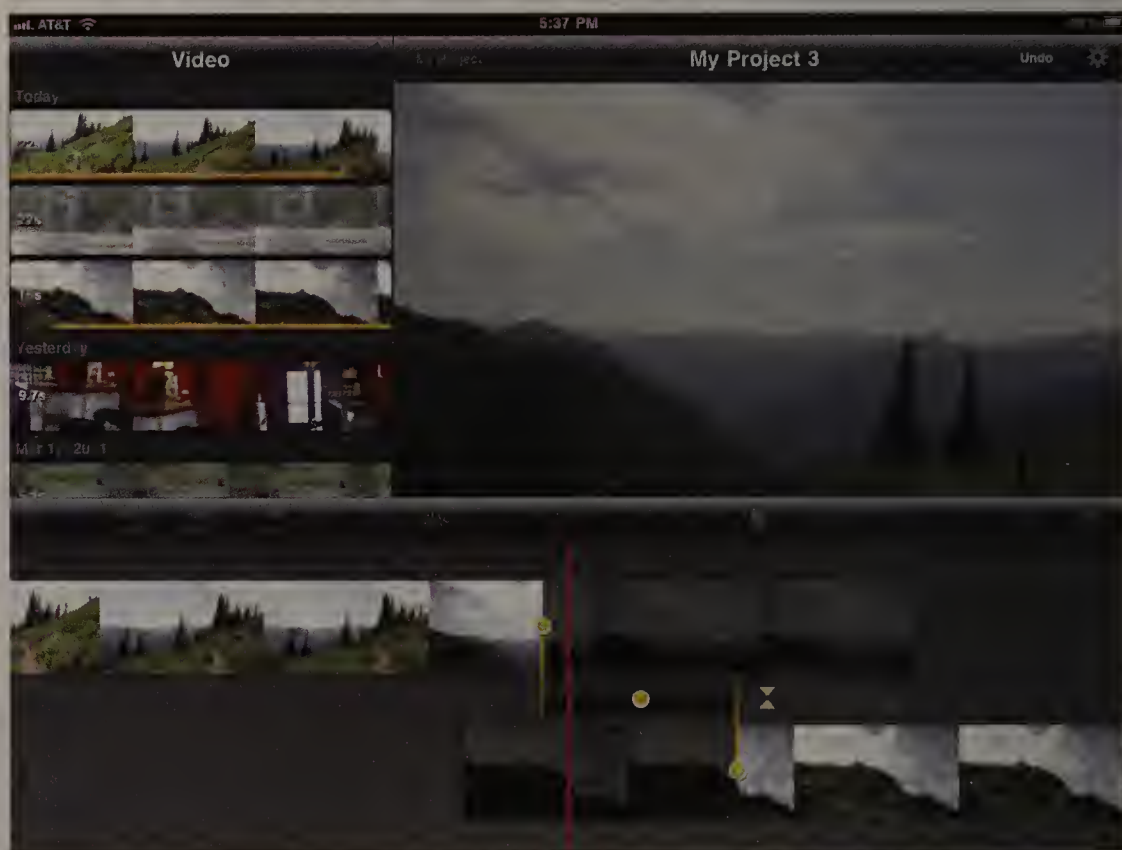
When Apple released iMovie for the iPhone 4 last year, I was excited to have a mobile version of iMovie. Still, a video-editing app seemed better suited for the iPad's large screen. Now, iMovie 1.2 for iOS—perhaps the friendliest version yet of Apple's video editor—brings video editing to the iPad 2.

iMovie for iOS makes the complex task of video editing both accessible and touchable. That tactile interactivity makes editing more engaging. By using your fingers instead of being once removed by the mouse on a computer, you get a better sense of how to assemble the movie. When my three-year-old daughter and I coedited a quick movie, she chose clips from the Videos pane by tapping on them.

This update runs on the iPad 2 (but not the original iPad), the iPhone 4, and the fourth-generation (4G) iPod touch.

### Editing Video

No surprise—editing on the larger iPad screen is better than editing on the iPhone's small screen. When the iPad is in landscape orientation, the Video pane appears in the upper left corner. Tap a source clip to select it, and use the yellow



**Precision Editor** See more of the clips surrounding an edit point in the Precision Editor.

the way you move your finger, and there's no audio. I found myself wanting to preview a clip in real time without first adding it to a project—for example, to have a Video pane-specific play button that affects the current selection.

the screen real estate to show the video clips around the transition and let you view the unused footage of each, helping you choose edit points.

To my relief, Apple didn't cram the new iMovie interface for the iPad onto the iPhone 4 and iPod touch versions of iMovie 1.2 for iOS. Those retain the minimal interface used in the first version of iMovie. The small-screen versions don't offer the Precision Editor or audio waveforms, but otherwise, the editing experience is similar to what you encounter on the iPad.

### Editing Audio

The audio tools are broader in this version of iMovie for iOS. It's now possible to view audio waveforms for

## Footage is assumed to come from the iPad's cameras, an iPhone 4, or a 4G iPod touch. Got AVCHD video? You'll need iMovie for the Mac.

selection handles to choose which portion of the clip to use. As you drag a handle, the Viewer area to the right displays the current frame, giving you an idea of where the edit point will be.

You can preview a clip by dragging across it, but the preview rate depends on

Editing clips in the timeline is easy and intuitive: When you tap a clip, the bright yellow selection-handle orbs appear, begging to be dragged. When you need to make more-specific edits, pinch outward vertically on a transition icon to open the Precision Editor, which takes advantage of



video and audio clips, so it's easier to determine edit points.

The app also now offers multiple audio tracks: One for the video track, one background music track, and three foreground audio tracks. A limited library of sound effects is available as well. And you can include multiple background songs by turning off the Loop Background Music option in the Project Settings.

Despite these welcome additions, I long for more control. When you trim an audio clip, there's no way to fade out the edit point. You can adjust only the overall volume of a clip. The background music track is automatically ducked (made softer) when there's audio in a video clip, but there's no control for the ducking level.

Also, iMovie assumes that any audio track under one minute is foreground audio, not a background music track. That can be a problem if you want to open a video with a short piece from your iTunes music library, and then follow with a longer piece. Unlike in the desktop version of iMovie, you can't pin a background track arbitrarily.

## Sharing Your Movie

In the previous iOS version of iMovie, you needed to send a finished movie back to your device's Camera Roll before exporting it. Now, you can export the movie directly to YouTube, Facebook, Vimeo, and CNN iReport, as well as to the iPad's Camera Roll. (It's odd that MobileMe isn't on that sharing list; you must upload to MobileMe via the Photos app.) HD-quality options are available.

iMovie can play movies on devices, like the Apple TV, that support AirPlay. When you start playing in full-screen mode and tap the AirPlay icon, iMovie creates an AirPlay-compatible version.

Another option enabled by the iPad 2 is direct playback to an HDTV or projector via HDMI, using Apple's Digital AV Adapter. When connected, the TV mirrors what's on the iPad. However, tapping the Play Full Screen button on the Projects page doesn't use the entire TV the way playing a movie from the Videos app does. For the full-screen effect, you must share the movie to the Camera Roll, and play it there.

One other item in the sharing list is Send Project To iTunes. This lets you export an editable version of your project, to be copied to another iOS device—but not to iMovie '11 on the Mac. If you do some editing and want to send the project back to the original device, you must follow a cumbersome process and put up with duplicate source clips.

## Little Annoyances

Apple doesn't even try to support the variety of video formats that people are likely to be shooting in. Footage is assumed to come from the iPad's cameras, an iPhone 4, or a 4G iPod touch (H.264 up to 720p and MPEG-4). Got AVCHD video? You'll need iMovie for the Mac.

Now that iMovie supports multiple audio tracks, I'd like to be able to extract audio from a video clip. And accessing songs and photos needs finer organization: If you sync photos from iPhoto, for example, events, albums, smart albums, and Faces are tossed into one long alphabetical list. And the Audio pane, particularly the Songs list, really needs the same sort of lettered shortcut control—for jumping through the library—that runs alongside the Contacts list in the FaceTime app.

## Macworld's Buying Advice

Apple's iMovie 1.2 for iOS is a friendly, easy-to-use app for the iPad 2, the iPhone 4, and the 4G iPod touch. It makes great use of the tablet's large screen and reinforces the value of an app that was already fun to use, letting you turn casual video clips into movies you want to share. Now that the app is available on the iPad (sadly, only for the new tablet), it makes me want more. However, priced at \$5 (free if you purchased the original version), iMovie 1.2 for iOS is a great app and a great bargain.

Jeff Carlson is the author of *The iPad 2 Pocket Guide* (Peachpit Press, 2011) and a senior editor of TidBits.

★★★★; \$5; Apple; [www.apple.com](http://www.apple.com);  
full review: [macworld.com/6303](http://macworld.com/6303)

# Adobe Launches Flash-to-HTML 5 Converter

BY JACKIE DOVE

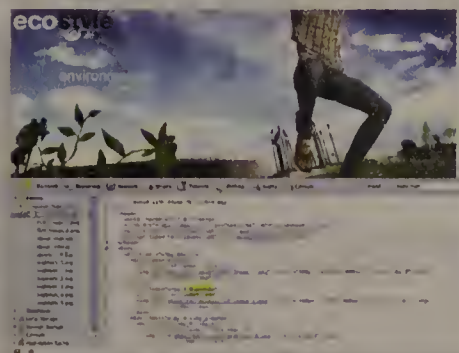
For most people, the word *wallaby* conjures up images of a kangaroo-like creature. At Adobe, though, the term assumes a more technical identity.

Wallaby is the code name for an experimental Flash-to-HTML 5 conversion tool that Adobe has released to developers via Adobe Labs, the site featuring its beta technology. Wallaby is a cross-platform Adobe AIR application that lets users instantly convert Flash output (FLA files) to HTML 5 via a simple drag-and-drop movement. The tool is downloadable for free.

The release is especially significant for the Mac community, because Wallaby would make content that was previously unavailable on the iOS platform viewable on the iPad and iPhone, which do not support Flash.

Not all elements from Flash will translate into HTML 5. Users will see the overall design and motion graphics. But blend modes, filters, audio, video, and ActionScript are discarded in the translation.

Adobe envisions developers using Wallaby primarily for building simple banner ads and animations. Anything more sophisticated requires bringing content into Dreamweaver and adding interactivity with JavaScript and JQuery. Adobe seeks comment from the Flash community on how best to deploy Wallaby.



**Wallaby in Action** Here, HTML 5 code was generated by Wallaby in Chrome.



# Put Your Stamp on Labels and Envelopes

BY JAY J. NELSON

**L**abel printing is a design process that you can improve with a little forethought. Here are a few useful tips for creating and printing labels in any program.

## Design Programs

At the free end is Avery DesignPro ([macworld.com/7110](http://macworld.com/7110)), an application for creating documents to print on Avery's huge variety of labels. It lets you merge contacts from Address Book and import photos and playlists from iPhoto and iTunes to print on labels. It also has some clever graphic capabilities, such as placing text on a curve, and includes a sizable collection of clip art.

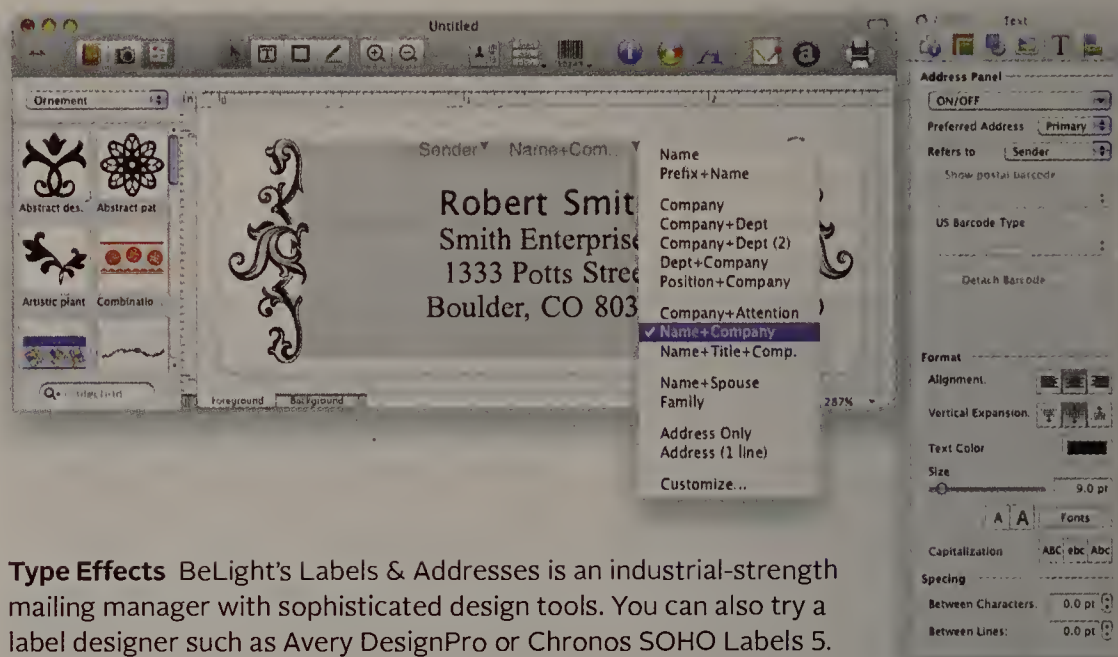
If you don't mind investing \$40 to \$50 for an enjoyable tool that will offer many benefits over the default capabilities of the Mac OS, consider programs like Chronos SOHO Labels 5 or BeLight Labels & Addresses.

The \$40 Chronos SOHO Labels 5 ([macworld.com/7111](http://macworld.com/7111)) is a very slick program that takes advantage of some of the advanced capabilities of Mac OS X. For example, it has a Cover Flow feature that lets you browse through the more than 650 included designs for labels, cards, letterheads, envelopes, and more. The quality of the designs is impressive, and you can purchase additional kits from the company's online store.

BeLight's \$50 Labels & Addresses ([macworld.com/7112](http://macworld.com/7112)) has features similar to SOHO Labels'. But it also has a powerful engine designed for high-volume, international mailings. Its Art Text plug-in lets you create sophisticated text effects, and includes thousands of illustrations and more than 100 useful fonts.

## Printing Creative Labels

To give your message a truly personal flavor, have a font made from your handwriting. Several Websites, such as YourFonts.com and Fontifier.com, among others, will convert your handwriting to a



**Type Effects** BeLight's Labels & Addresses is an industrial-strength mailing manager with sophisticated design tools. You can also try a label designer such as Avery DesignPro or Chronos SOHO Labels 5.

font for under \$10, and the process is remarkably simple.

To make the best impression when creating your labels, keep the following tips in mind.

- > Don't use ALL CAPS. With standard text fonts, all caps comes across as unfriendly. And with script fonts, all caps can be ugly and difficult to read.

- > Use the longest address you have to determine the maximum type size that will fit on your labels.

- > Sheets of labels aren't cheap. Fortunately, the three programs I've mentioned let you begin printing new addresses in any location on a sheet of labels. I wouldn't recommend sending a half-empty sheet of labels through the high-temperature innards of a laser printer, but on an inkjet printer a half-empty sheet should be fine.

- > Make sure the addresses will print inside the label boundaries before printing them onto the actual label sheet. Always print your first page of addresses on plain paper and then hold that sheet behind a blank sheet of labels. If you hold them together in front of a bright window (or light), any registration problems will be obvious.

- > Consider using clear or colored labels. Clear labels almost disappear on

your envelopes and packages, while colored labels can add a new design element to your projects. Superior Labels, Uline, Online Labels, World Label, and other retailers offer labels with clear gloss, clear matte, silver and gold foil, pastel, vibrantly colored, and fluorescent finishes. Avery-branded labels are available from many retailers in clear, gold, silver, and matte white.

- > For a more professional appearance, try using a smaller label size for your return address, or get a rubber stamp made from your own custom design. Most office-supply and shipping stores offer reasonably priced custom stamps.

- > Consider using a larger label that gives you room to add your return address and additional design elements—such as a photo, logo, or monogram.

While Apple's Address Book does a commendable job of printing text in several formats, and while many people use Apple's Pages or Microsoft Word to create labels, the affordable programs covered here have additional powerful and valuable capabilities. They're also just a lot more fun to use!

**Jay J. Nelson** is the editor and publisher of *Design Tools Monthly*, an executive summary of graphic design news.





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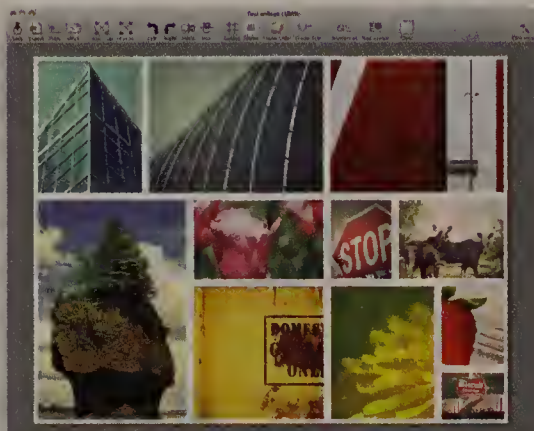
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# REVIEWS

Hardware, Software, and Accessories  
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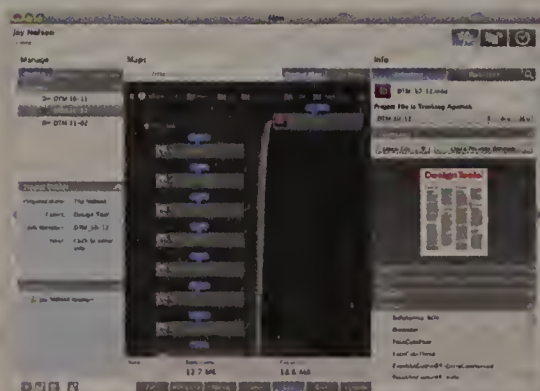


## SOFTWARE

### cf/x collage 1.2.4 ▴

Assembling a photo collage is often a complex task that requires you to carefully crop, resize, and reposition each photo on your canvas. To simplify this process, cf/x software offers cf/x collage 1.2.4, a utility that lets you create stunning collages by using any number of photos. Unfortunately, cf/x collage stumbles a bit with its canvas resolution settings, and it is far too singular in focus. Its grid-based collages can be gorgeous, but the app doesn't offer a variety of collage styles or frame shapes (it lacks circles, triangles, and polygons) or allow frames to be set to a solid color. Unlike its sister program, cf/x alpha, collage 1.2.4 is a one-trick pony. But despite its limitations, there's no better app for making simple, sleek photo collages. For the price, it's a reasonable choice ([macworld.com/7101](http://macworld.com/7101)).

★★★★½; \$30; cf/x software,  
[www.cfxsoftware.com](http://www.cfxsoftware.com)



### Flow 2.0.2 ▴

GridIron's Flow 2.0.2 is a systemwide project-management tool that functions

as a workflow tracker, project manager, and revision keeper. Think of it as a beefed-up Spotlight focused specifically on the challenges facing creative pros. It tracks every file your project team creates, updates, moves, exports, or places into another document, and it can show you the relationships between them. It also tracks time spent on projects, provides unique tools for collaboration, and lets you roll back a document to any previously saved version. GridIron's Flow 2.0.2 Essentials is the greatest free utility ever for creative professionals—and the paid modules, which provide additional functionality for a monthly subscription fee—make it even better ([macworld.com/7100](http://macworld.com/7100)).

★★★★★; free (add-on modules from \$10 to \$20 per month); GridIron Software,  
[www.gridironsoftware.com](http://www.gridironsoftware.com)

### iStopMotion Pro 2.7 ▸

iStopMotion Pro 2.7, from Boinx Software, is a program that helps you create stop-

motion animation—the process of moving objects slightly between shots in order to give the illusion of motion when those shots are played back in succession. This program is targeted at experienced users, but if you're looking for truly professional-level input and controls, you may find this product lacking. However, if all you want to do is create some stop-motion animation and you just need some tools to help you see what you're doing, iStopMotion will give you what you're after. The program is reliable and easy to use, but it's too limited for professional production and too expensive for what it does ([macworld.com/7099](http://macworld.com/7099)).

★★★★; \$499; Boinx Software, [www.boinx.com](http://www.boinx.com)



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MediaStation 8X External Blu-ray Writer (pictured) <a href="http://www.buffalotech.com">www.buffalotech.com</a>	★★★★	\$220	Blu-ray	5344

### CAMCORDERS

High Definition

PRODUCT	RATING	PRICE <sup>A</sup>	TYPE	FIND CODE <sup>B</sup>
Flip MinoHD (120 Minutes) (pictured) <a href="http://www.theflip.com">www.theflip.com</a>	★★★★½	\$159	mini camcorder	5512
Vixia HF M32 <a href="http://www.canon.com">www.canon.com</a>	★★★★	\$519	AVCHD/MPEG-4	6848

<sup>A</sup> All prices are the best current prices taken from a PriceGrabber survey of retailers at press time. <sup>B</sup> In a browser's address field, typing a find code after [macworld.com/](http://macworld.com/) takes you to a product's review or overview.



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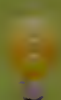
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# HELP DESK

Answering Your Questions and Sharing Your Tips about Getting the Most from Your Mac

## Mac OS X Hints

The insider tips you won't get from Apple

BY MACWORLD STAFF

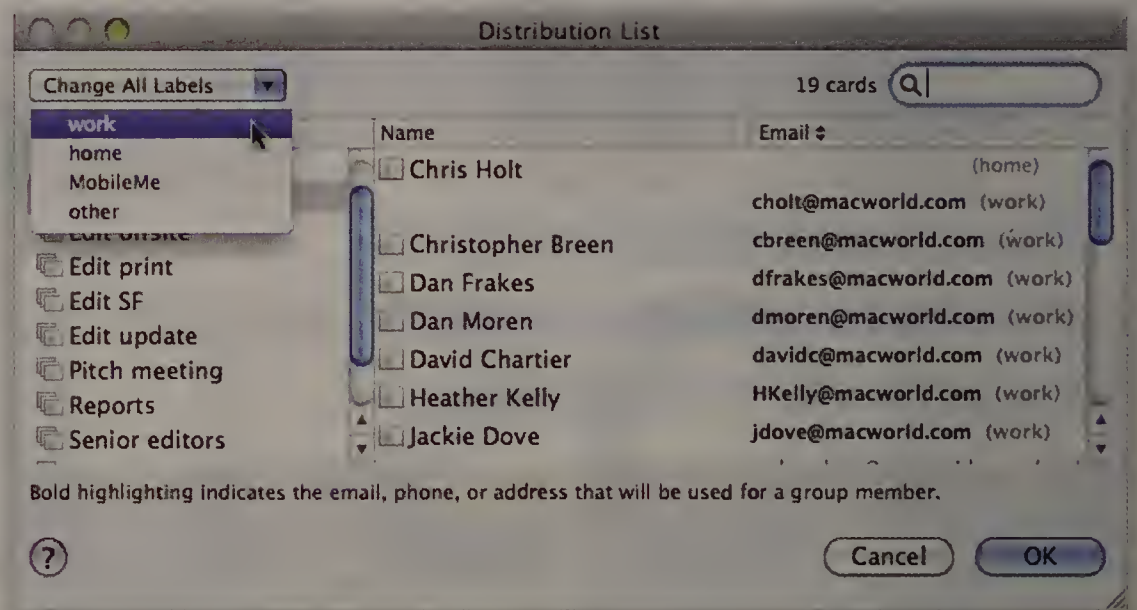
### Hide the Help Window

One of OS X's most vexing features is that, when you summon Help in almost any Mac app, the Help Viewer window floats on top of every other open window. Even if you switch from the Help Viewer to another app, the Viewer window stays on top. Fortunately, there's a fix: Open Terminal (/Applications/Utilities) and at the command line type **defaults write com.apple.helpviewer DevMode -bool true**; then press Return. Now, the next time you open the Help Viewer, it will no longer float on top of your other windows. To return to the default behavior, enter **defaults delete com.apple.helpviewer DevMode**.

### Choose Group Addresses in Mail

If you use groups in Address Book, you may have run into a little glitch when using them to address messages in Mail: If a group member has more than one e-mail address—one for home and another for work, say—how do you tell Mail which one to use?

Turns out you can specify the address you want to use for group messages: In Address Book, Control-click (or right-



**Group Addresses** To specify which e-mail addresses Mail uses in group e-mail messages, you edit the group's distribution list in Address Book.

click) on the group and select Edit Distribution List. In the subsequent Distribution List window, you can select a default e-mail address for each member of the group. The next time you address a message to that group, Mail should use the addresses you want.

If you have the opposite problem—you want your messages to go to multiple addresses for group members—there's a way to do that, too. First, create two groups—'Home Group' and 'Work Group,' for example—and add contacts to both. Next, select Home Group and (as before) Control-click and choose Edit Distribution List. In the Distribution List window, select Home from the Change All Labels dropdown menu. Do the same for the Work Group, but this time select Work from the dropdown menu. Finally, create a third group—let's call it 'Group'—and drag the two other groups into it. The next time you use Group in Mail's address field,

both home and work addresses will appear for every user who has both.

### Change Exposé Highlight Color

By default, a highlighted window in Exposé is outlined in blue. That outline—and, therefore, the window it's surrounding—can be hard to spot. But you can change the color to something more visible. Note: While changing this setting isn't hard, you do have to edit some system files. So make sure you back up the files in question before you start hacking them.

Start by going to /System/Library/CoreServices. Control-click on the Dock application and select Show Package Contents. In the new window that appears, navigate to Contents/Resources. You're looking for two files: *expose-window-selection-small.png* and *expose-window-selection-big.png*. Make copies of these files to keep as backups.

Now copy both files and paste the copies on your desktop, with the exact

### Have a Hint to Share?

Navigate to [MacOSXHints.com](http://MacOSXHints.com) to submit it. This column was based on tips from Daniel Beck, Keir Thomas, and anonymous contributors. Each month, the author of our favorite tip receives the *Help Desk* mug.







**Customize the Exposé Halo** You can change the color Exposé uses to highlight selected windows from blue to yellow.

same names as the originals. Open these desktop copies in an image editor (you may need to adjust file permissions), and change the color. A bright color like yellow or white is nicely visible; if you're using Adobe Photoshop, the Hue/Saturation tool can be handy for this. Just be sure to choose the same color for both files, and don't alter anything else about the images, such as their physical size.

Once you're done, save the files to your desktop. (If asked, select no interlacing.) Using the Finder, copy the edited files from your desktop back to the Dock package, replacing the originals. You'll be asked to authenticate.

Log out and then back in to your account, and activate Exposé to see the changes. If you don't like the new color, or if there's any problem, restore from the backup copies you made; log out and back in again to revert to blue highlighting.

### Control AirPort without Menu Bar

Most of us turn AirPort on and off via the AirPort icon in the menu bar. But you can also control wireless networking via your keyboard (or mouse).

To start with, you need to find out the device name of your AirPort network interface. To do so, open System Profiler



## POWER TIP OF THE MONTH

### Move Selected Files to New Folder

In OS X, there's no built-in way to select a bunch of files in the Finder and then move them en masse to a new folder. An *OS X Hints* reader posted a script that not only gathers files, but does so even in restricted system folders such as the Trash.

on run {input, parameters}

```
tell application "Finder"
    set selectedItems to selection
    if selectedItems is not {} then
        set topLevelName to name of item 1 of selectedItems
        set selectionPath to POSIX path of file ((item 1 of
selectedItems) as string)
        set selectionPath to ((characters 1 thru ((offset of
topLevelName in selectionPath) - 1)) in selectionPath) as
string
        set dateString to do shell script "date \"+%Y.%m.%d %a
%I.%M.%S %p\""
        set newFolder to selectionPath & (dateString & " Gathered
Items")
        do shell script "mkdir " & quoted form of newFolder
        set newFolder to (POSIX file newFolder) as alias
        move selectedItems to newFolder
        reveal newFolder
    end if
end tell
```

To implement this script as a service, open Automator and select the Service template. At the top right of the editing window, set the service to accept selected files or folders as input in the Finder. Drag the Run AppleScript action from the Utilities section at the far left to the workflow window on the right. Replace (**\* Your script goes here \***) in the action's editing pane with the script above, then save the service. (If you want to change the way new folders are named, edit variables in the lines that begin **set dateString** and **set newFolder**.)

(Apple menu ► About This Mac, and click More Info). In the left pane, select the Network section. In the upper right pane, you'll see a list of your network devices. Find the one named AirPort, then find its entry in the BSD Device Name column. For the sake of explanation, let's say it's **en1**.

Now open Terminal and enter **networksetup -setairportpower en1 off**. The networksetup utility can perform all kinds of network-related actions; its **setairportpower** switch just turns AirPort power on or off. To turn AirPort back on, use the same command, replacing **off** with **on**.

To make this command accessible from within the OS X GUI, you could create an application: Open AppleScript Editor

(/Applications/Utilities) and enter **do shell script "networksetup -setairportpower en1 on"**. Select File ► Save As, supply a name ('AirPort On,' for example), select Application as the file format, and store the application wherever you want. With the script still open, change **on** to **off**, select File ► Save As again, give the application a name ('AirPort Off'), and save it wherever you put the first one. You can move these applications to the Dock, the Finder's toolbar or sidebar, or wherever else is handy.

With your new application or service at hand, you can get rid of the menu bar's AirPort icon: Open the Network system preference, select the AirPort interface in your current location, and uncheck the Show AirPort Status In Menu Bar box.





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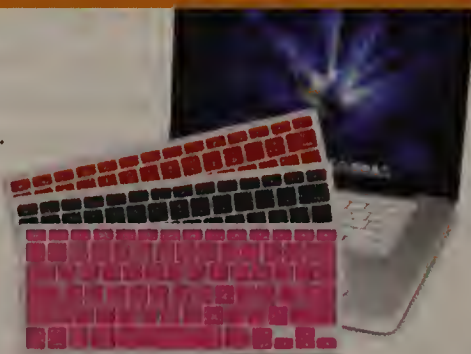
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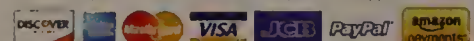
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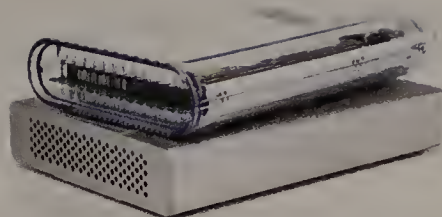
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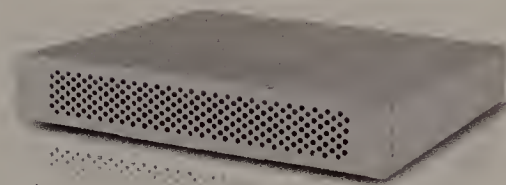
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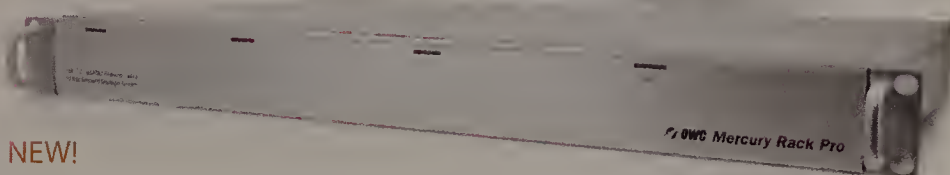
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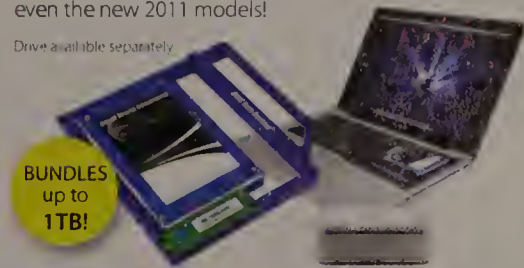
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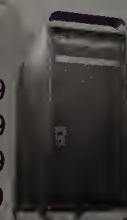
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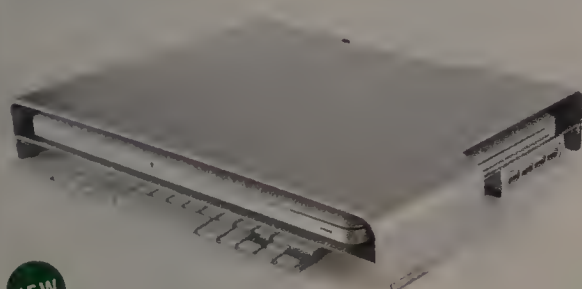


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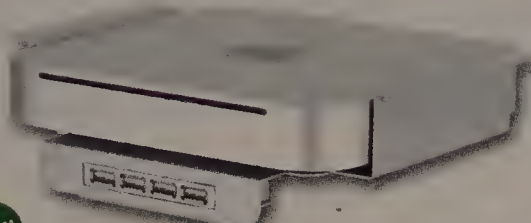
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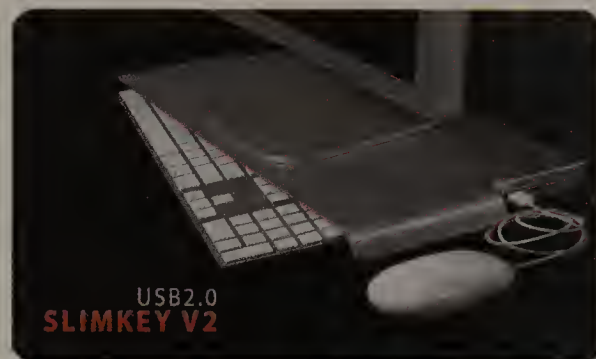
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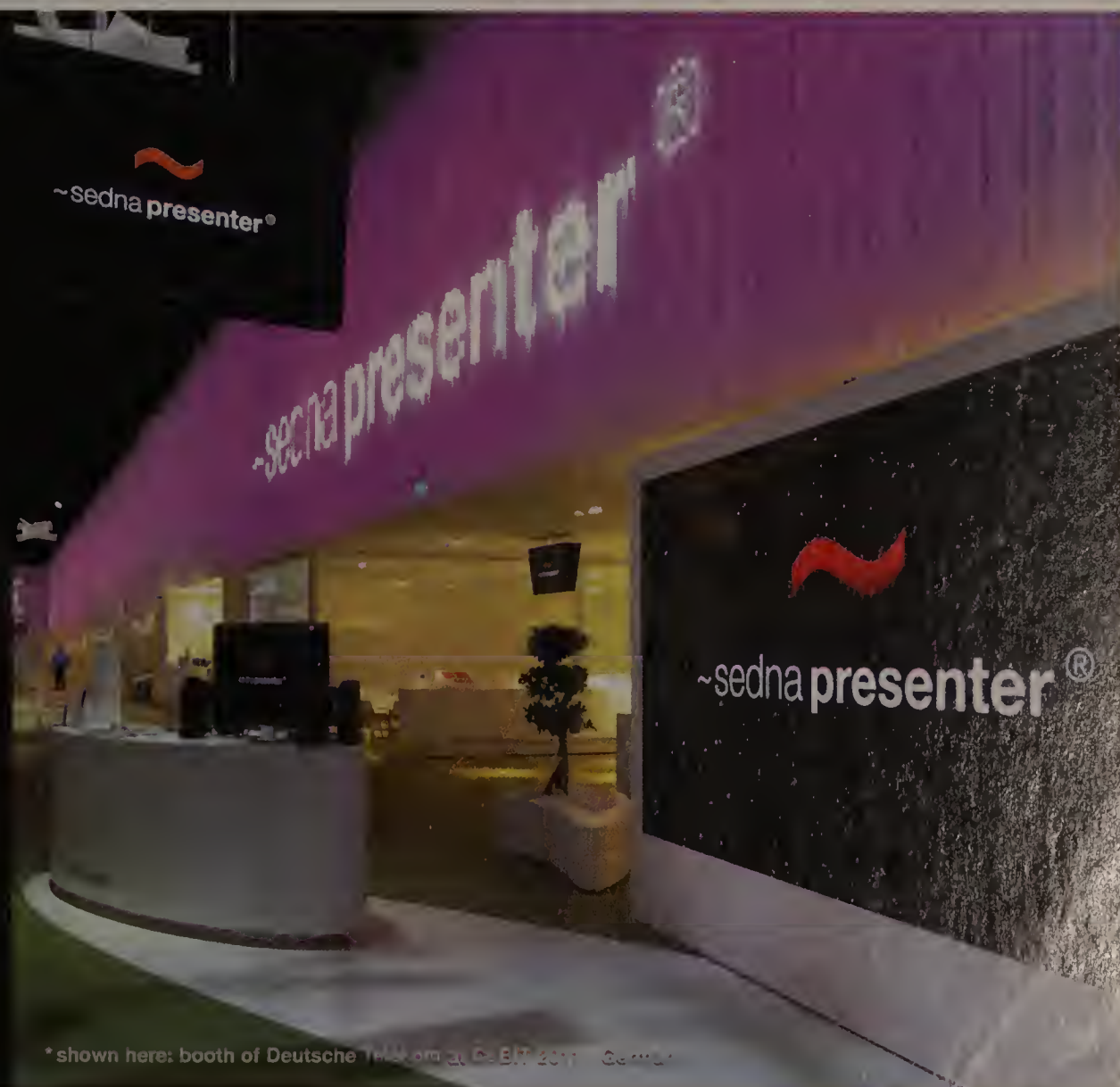
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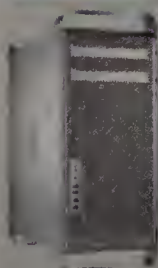
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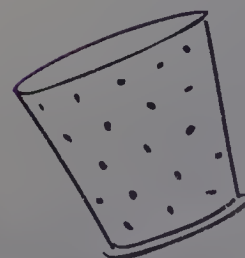
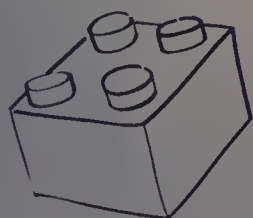
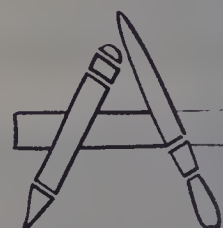
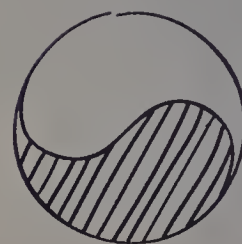
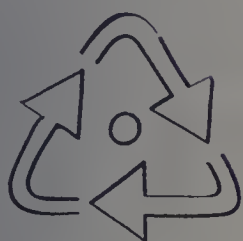
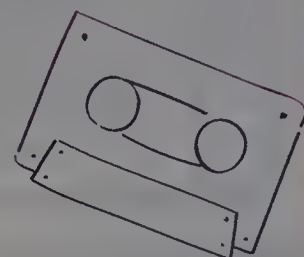
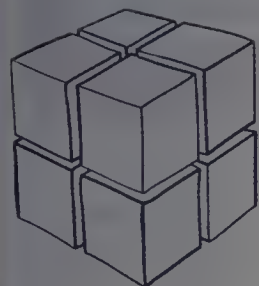
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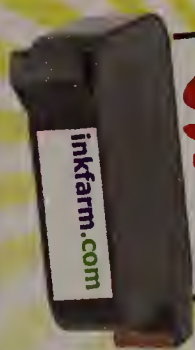
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# Mac 911: Behind the Scenes

The trials of a troubleshooting columnist

**E**arlier in this issue, I answered some of the most common troubleshooting issues encountered by many Mac users, the kinds of questions I answer every month in our *Mac 911* column (see “Help!,” page 30). Regrettably we don’t have room to present *all* of the puzzlers we get. Here are a few we couldn’t include in the feature along with the ensuing conversations required to solve them, in all their raw glory.

## Dealing with an Infected Mac

The icons on my Mac’s desktop used to show a preview of the document. Now they’re generic icons. What kind of virus do I have, and which utility should I use to get rid of it?—*Cooties in Coober Pedy*

**CB:** You don’t have a virus. It’s likely that—

**CiCP:** I do have a virus.

**CB:** No, honestly you don’t. You see, Macs aren’t really susceptible to the kinds of viruses that a Win—

**CiCP:** I very definitely have a virus, or one of those other “-ware” things. I know because the Internet said so. I’m a subscriber but will stop being one if you don’t help me immediately.

**CB:** Oh, you’re a *subscriber*. Why didn’t you say so? That changes *everything*. Here’s the truth:

Mac OS X has a secret built-in antivirus utility, but Apple doesn’t like to talk about it, because it wants people to believe that Macs don’t get viruses. So please, keep the following under your hat: In the Finder, press  $\mathbb{H}$ -J. In the desktop window that appears, enable the Show Icon Preview option. This engages the hidden antivirus tool, which wipes the virus from your Mac and restores your desktop icons to their previous state. Next time you suspect your Mac is infected, follow the same procedure. It’s just as effective as any other antivirus utility you might run on your Mac.

## Sleep Issues

Someone sent me a Microsoft Word file a few months ago that I can’t open with Word 2011. I’ve been able to open it in TextEdit and copy the text from it, but I want to view it in Word. I’ve reformatted my hard drive, reinstalled both Microsoft Office and Snow Leopard six times, and sent multiple e-mail messages to Steve Ballmer and Steve Jobs. I haven’t bathed in weeks, and I can’t sleep. Please help me!—*Desperate in Denmark*

**CB:** Launch Automator, choose Application from the template sheet that appears, and click Choose. Create a workflow that includes these actions: Get Specified Finder Items, Ask For Confirmation, and Move Finder Items To Trash. In the Ask For Confirmation action, enter **About Your Life** in the Message field, and in the Text field enter **Isn’t it time that you started worrying about the important**

**I’ve been using this Power Mac 7100 since 1994, and I’ve spent a heck of a lot of money on it!**



**things in life instead of this kind of idiotic minutiae?** Click on the Cancel field and type **No it isn’t**. In the OK field, type **Yes it is**. Save the workflow to the desktop as an application and call it ‘Perspective.’ Drag your troublesome Word document to your saved Perspective workflow and, when prompted, make the correct choice. In a wink, your troubles will be over.

## Seeking a Time Machine

All of my really important data is in HyperCard and AppleWorks, both of which run great on my Power Mac 7100. I was thinking of getting a new iMac when Lion comes out, but I hear it won’t run these programs. What’s wrong with Apple? Why does it ignore the needs of loyal users like me by killing off these programs?—*Frustrated in Florida*

**CB:** Well, Apple has to think about the needs of its current users and—

**FiF:** I *am* a current user! I’ve been using this 7100 since 1994 and I’ve spent a heck of a lot of money on it, too! Listen, sonny, if it weren’t for people like me who talked up Apple in the bad years, there wouldn’t be an Apple today producing all those dumfangled iPods and iPads and i-things that you and the other kids seem to think are so blasted keen.

**CB:** You didn’t really just say *keen*.

**FiF:** I did, consarn ye. Forget it. Cancel my subscription!

**CB:** According to our records you don’t have a subscription.

**FiF:** A fat lot you know, Mr. Mac 911. See, I got the latest issue right here; the one with the roundup of NuBus video cards and David Pogue’s PowerTalk song parody.

**CB:** My mistake. Let me have Lon Poole get back to you. I’m sure he’ll have the answer you need.

**Christopher Breen** is a senior editor for *Macworld*.





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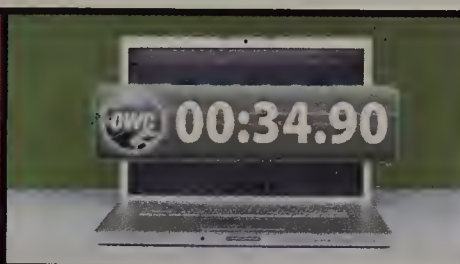


## SEEING IS BELIEVING

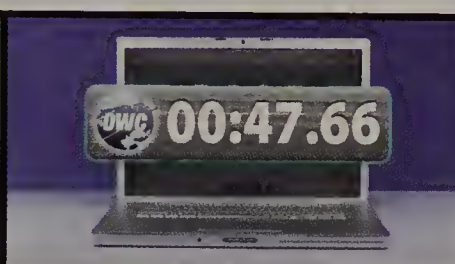
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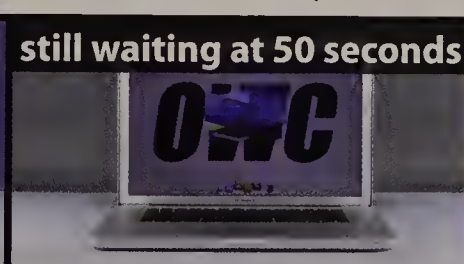
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